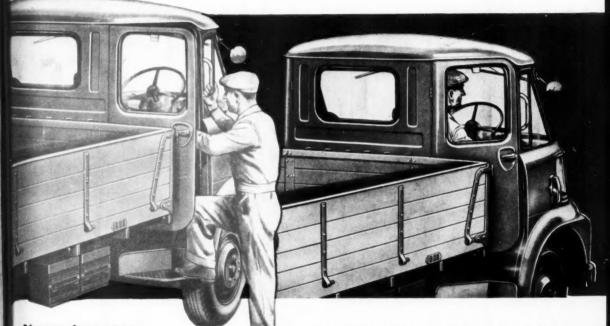
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Above: door open, only slight projection Above, right: door closed

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With driver efficiency features such as a four-way seat
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This Albion Clydesdale tractor with a 9½ cu. yard tipping semi-trailer is one of a large fleet of Albions operated by E. & E. Rogers, Haulage Contractors of Shrewsbury.



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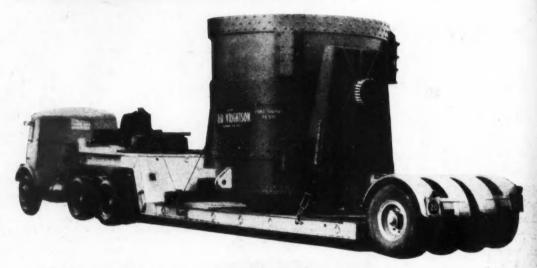


Illustration shows a double detachable-axle HANDS Machinery Trailer U.B.L.M. 25. HANDS TRAILERS and allied equipment incorporate up-to-the-minute improvements in design—the latest being HANDS patented Automatic Coupling Gear. Full details of complete range of equipment, or special products, will be sent on request.

HANDS TRAILERS Range in Capacity from 2 to 30 tons for STANDARD MACHINES.

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Patent Nos. 776002 & 647075 other patents pending

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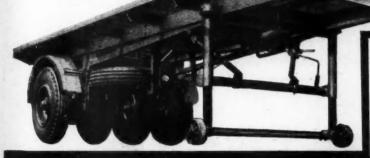
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CRANE patent trunnion-ended suspension (which pivots below axle level) adds miles to the life of a tyre by reducing scrub to an absolute minimum, stability too is greatly increased-see diagrams A & B.

NOTE THESE SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE CRANE four-wheels-in-line suspension.

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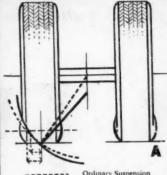
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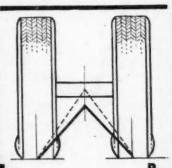
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Note low pivot point of CRANE suspen-sion compared with ordinary systems. Shortened sideways movement reduces tyre scrub,



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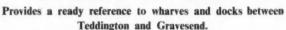
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# ONDON THARVES A



published in association with The Commercial Motor



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The 56-page Directory section includes more than 500 entries containing details of the facilities provided by many of the wharves and docks for the handling of special commodities. Wharf frontage dimensions at high and low tides are given and an index to wharf owners is included at the end of the guide.

There are 17 full-page maps, each devoted to a particular section of the River, and a simple grid-system shows at a glance the position of each dock and wharf listed in the Directory. An innovation is the large pull-out road map which forms a useful guide to the principal routes to the wharves.

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(not to mention fruit, fowl, frozen food and furniture)



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There is a BONALLACK Container for every class of goods, including those requiring refrigeration. For Road, Rail or Sea-

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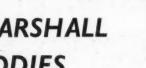
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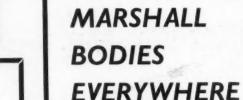


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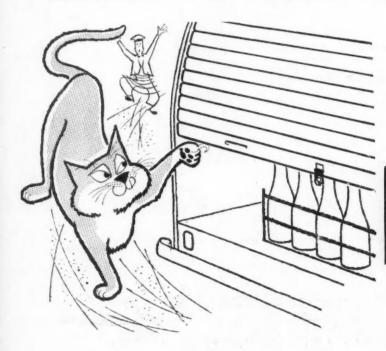
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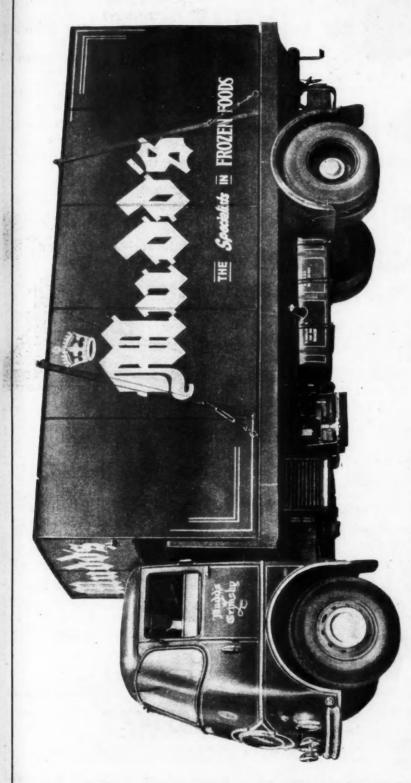
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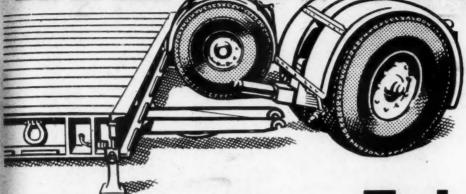
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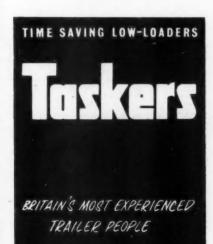




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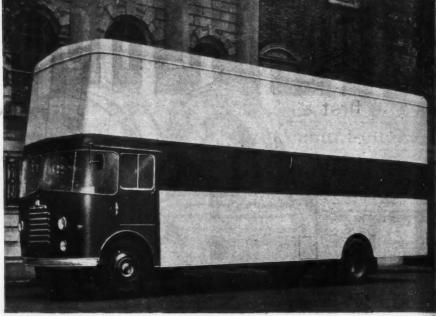
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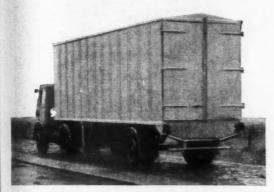
# The BIG news in transport is

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# SUPER-FREIGHTER

The first all-British, all light-alloy frameless semi-trailer van



The Super-Freighter undergoing trials on the pavé at the M.I.R.A. proving ground

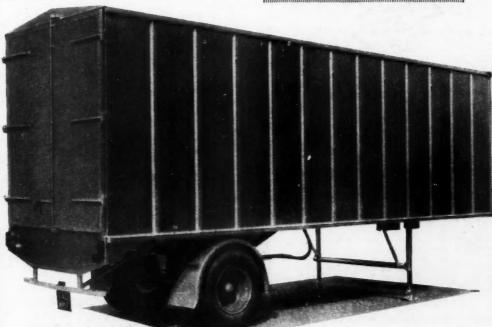
light-alloy bodies by

Another giant stride in British enterprise is the new SUPER-FREIGHTER. Designed and manufactured by the Duramin Engineering Co. Ltd., who pioneered light-alloy body building. The new integral construction semi-trailer van is available in a wide range of dimensions, load ratings and specifications, including insulated and refrigerated.

The example illustrated is 26 ft. long and provides 1400 cu. ft. of cargo space, and weighs to standard specification complete under 2 tons 14 cwt. A reinforced floor to take fork-lift trucks adds 2 cwt.

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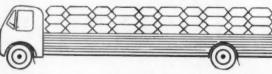
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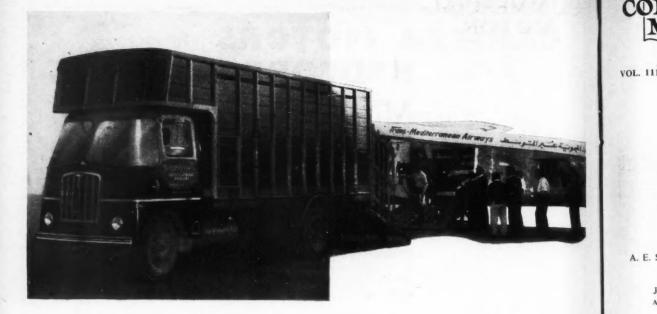
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JULY 29, 1960 VOL. 111 No. 2867

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#### A National Scandal

R. J. S. WILLS, chairman of the Western Welsh Omnibus Co., Ltd., was not exaggerating when, last week, he described the illegal use of small buses as a national scandal. Pirates are turning back the clock to the lawless days before the passing of the Road Traffic Act, 1930. There is, however, a significant difference between those days and the present. Before 1930 competition was free for all. Under the licensing system legitimate operators are now strictly regulated in their activities, and they are having to fight the pirates with one hand tied behind their backs. They are unable to take effective competitive counter-measures and the law fails to protect them.

As Mr. Wills said, it is often most difficult to obtain a conviction, because the passengers and the drivers are in the same conspiracy. Even when a conviction has been secured, there is apt to be misplaced sympathy for the defendants. "Those loudest in their sympathy," Mr. Wills added, "will usually be those who are the first to complain if we have to put up our fares or take off a service as a result of this illegal competition."

The magnitude of the problem is seen in an observation which he made near Cardiff City football ground during an association football match last winter. He counted 104 6-12-seaters, few of which were even licensed as public service vehicles. Undoubtedly, most of them were being run as unlicensed fare-taking buses by people who bought them with the deliberate intention of using them to earn untaxed income. They paid no proper licence fees, ignored the Conditions of Fitness Regulations, and flouted the authority of the Traffic Commissioners. It is ironical that this practice should be rife in an area where local authorities, as guardians of the ratepayers, are more vehemently resistant to legitimate bus-fare increases than anywhere else in the country.

It is hardly surprising that under these conditions 55 per cent. of the routes and 37 per cent. of the mileage of the Western Welsh Omnibus Co., Ltd., should last year have been unremunerative. Most of the routes were in rural areas. Any recommendation for the alleviation of the difficulties of operating rural services which may be put forward by the Jack Committee will be ineffective unless the police and the Traffic Commissioners make a determined effort to stamp out illegal competition with licensed facilities.

#### Cold Comfort

Lof DERWENT was a little optimistic when he said in the House of Lords, last week, that commercial-vehicle operators would be "much comforted" by the safeguards of their interests which the Minister of Transport proposed where local authorities took advantage of the powers given them by the Road Traffic and Road Improvements Bill to prohibit loading and unloading for more than six hours in any day. Admittedly, the Minister has agreed immediately to consult local authorities and operators' organizations on the subject. Moreover, a council would have to consider objections to an extended ban at a public inquiry and send a copy of the inspector's report to the Ministry at least a month before the date on which an order authorizing it was to be introduced.

The theory is that the Minister would be able to discuss the matter with the local authority if, in the words of Lord Chesham, Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport, "he thinks anything proposed goes beyond what is reasonable on traffic grounds." But how can the Minister, sitting in Whitehall, know the physical

characteristics of a street in a small northern town, and assess the effects of an all-day ban on loading and unloading on the businesses of local traders and the concerns supplying and carrying for them?

Local authorities are obviously intended to use their new powers, otherwise they would not have been granted. But any effective safeguard for the interests of commercial-vehicle operators would completely nullify the provisions of the Bill. Nothing can ever justify the prohibition of loading and unloading for more than six hours a day, and no amount of reassurance will undo the damaging possibilities of a clause that should never have been enacted.



Don't look now, but your slip is showing.

### Royal Vigilance

A MONG those who are concerned about the emission of black smoke by oil-engined vehicles is the Duke of Edinburgh. What His Royal Highness thinks desirable today, the public are liable to demand tomorrow. If he believes that the law on "smoking" needs tightening up, watch out.

Profile That Never Was

THE announcement of the appointment of Mr. A. J. Burton as director of manufacturing services to the B.S.A. Co., Ltd., on August I, ends two months of speculation in automobile engineering circles. Mr. Burton resigned as works director at Longbridge and director of manufacture of B.M.C. Midland factories in May, at a time when his profile for "Men Who Make Transport" was already in type.

Who Make Transport" was already in type. It is unlikely, however, that his name will disappear entirely from the industry. Although he would have liked to have been a surgeon, he comes of engineering stock and at the age of 44 is a production executive of distinction. His interests outside the boardroom? Golf, cricket and tennis.

#### Competitive Hauliers

ORGANIZERS of eliminating rounds of the Lorry Driver of the Year Competition who have tried in vain to persuade hauliers to enter will envy the promoters of the Stepney contest last Sunday. Of the 89 vehicles entered, 53 came from hauliers and B.R.S. Fourteen of the 24 concerns taking part were professional carriers. The secret: vigorous support by the Road Haulage Association.

в26

#### Men Who Make Transport—44

844

# GeoffreyScot

ALTHOUGH its importance in terms both of local employment and world trade is considerable, the factory of Ferodo, Ltd., at Chapel-en-le-Frith, is unobtrusive. Controlling this large and virile organization there is also a somewhat retiring figure, Geoffrey Scott Sutcliffe, O.B.E., T.D., whose business career has been devoted exclusively to Ferodo. He joined the organization in January, 1932, as a trainee.

Immediately before this, in the sixth form at Repton, he had started reading law, and the logical approach and faculty for critical analysis which were then acquired proved valuable assets in the years to come. For a variety of reasons the young man elected to pursue a commercial, rather than a legal, career. He was accepted by the Turner and Newall Group and only the luck of the draw directed to the Ferodo headquarters the trainee who was later to become the company's chairman.

For several years he went through all the departments of the works and offices. His training on the production side was completed as a foreman, after which he was transferred to the home sales field. Various more or less junior jobs came his way before appointment as sectional manager for the sale of fan-belts which Ferodo began to manufacture in 1937.

Already the shadow of war could be seen on the horizon and, becoming a Territorial, 2-Lt. Sutcliffe found himself mobilized immediately on the outbreak of hostilities. Thus started a journey that led to France in 1940, through the evacuation at Dunkirk, back to England for renewed training and later to North Africa—

#### Bird's Eye View

#### Canadian Offer

HEAR that a big Canadian haulier wants to buy an established British road transport business. He will be visiting Britain in the autumn in the hope of making a deal.

#### Fuel Saver

MR. "ALF" SUTTON, managing director of Sutton and Son (St. Helens), Ltd., tells me he is well pleased with the performance of his latest Atkinson eight-wheeler. Operating during the past five months on the company's Lancashire-London trunk service, it has averaged 13.4 m.p.g. It is a standard Atkinson with a Gardner 6LX 150 b.h.p. engine, six-speed gearbox and trailing axle. The double-reduction differential in the live axle has done much to improve fuel consumption.

#### United in Safety

YET another association is to be formed—this time, of vehicle safety-belt manufacturers. Its objects include the preservation of a high standard of quality and research into injuries sustained in accidents. Mr. Leonard D. Hodge, national director of the British Safety Council, took the initiative in calling the manufacturers together.

The Council is becoming a lively foil for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, who face "competition" also from the Road Operators' Safety Council.

#### Recognition

FOR years I have admired the single-minded purpose of Mr. S. W. Nobbs, a retired insurance official, of Norwich. By every means at his disposal, he has advocated sliding door for cars. A prolific writer on his subject, he has earned a lot of column inches in local, national and technical newspapers.

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# ffreyScott Sutcliffe

with the appointment of Brigade Major in the famous First Army. After taking part in the Tunis operations until the Germans surrendered he was transferred as Lt.-Col. Sutcliffe to the staff of Allied Forces H.Q. The trail that had started in 1939 finished in Italy just about six years later.

After the stresses of warting activity the Ferodo factory.

After the stresses of wartime activity the Ferodo factory was getting back into normal gear. For a while Mr. Sutcliffe served as home sales manager, but in 1947, when there was still much to do in realigning production, he was appointed works director. Five years later, at a time when more competitive conditions were making themselves felt, he returned to the distributive side as home sales director. The managing directorship followed in 1955. Mr. Sutcliffe became chairman of the company on May 1, 1956, and was appointed a director of Turner and Newall, Ltd., just 18 months later.

His keen personal interest in research on automotive braking matters means that he has a close knowledge of the many problems that beset the operators and drivers of heavy vehicles. Looking back over the past five years he thinks that probably the most important development in transport braking has been the introduction of the disc brake, and especially the work that has been performed in this connection by the Birmingham and Midland Motor Omnibus Co., Ltd.

From the Derbyshire village where Ferodo linings have always been made the company's products are exported to all countries of the Western World, a fact that has led Mr. Sutcliffe to study the impact of automotive braking



Mr. G. S. Sutcliffe, chairman of Ferodo, Ltd. Behind him is the shed where it all began.

At last he has achieved a personal success for his idea. He has won first prize, a cheque for £500, in the National Safety

Contest, in which nearly 9,000 persons put up their suggestions, of varying originality and usefulness, for improving safety on

the roads, in the home and in industry.

The sliding door on the off side, says Mr. Nobbs, eliminates the risk run by passing cyclists when a driver alights from his whicle. There are, of course, vanmen who have found that the absence of a door all too often puts them at the mercy of passing scooter riders. I suppose you can't please all the people all the time.

#### Third Tragedy

THE Road Haulage Association have suffered their third tragic loss in six months in the sudden death, last week, of Mr. Frank Milton, secretary of the Northern Area. His influence over many years has been so profound that I have regarded him as the Northern Area of the R.H.A. and the members as his satellites. It will be extremely difficult to find a replacement with Mr. Milton's knowledge of the industry and strength of character.

#### Silent Exit

THE reticent Mr. B. G. Turner, formerly managing director of Thomas Allen, Ltd., and one-time national chairman of the Road Haulage Association, has slipped quietly out of road transport with no more than a formal note of his retirement from the company secretary. His nephew, Mr. P. H. R. Turner, has succeeded him as general manager and director, but has not taken up the office of managing director.

The Commercial Motor would have liked to have paid tribute to "B.G." in "Men Who Make Transport," but he gracefully declined the invitation. The limelight is not for him. May be enjoy his retirement in peace.

on a global scale. His company have manufacturing organizations in Canada, India, Brazil and France. The origin of the French company goes back to the 1920s and it has developed with the object of meeting the requirements of the French vehicle industry.

Mr. Sutcliffe's most recent overseas tour was to Australia, where there are now more than 2.6m. motor vehicles to 10m. people. In 10 years the human population has risen by 25 per cent. as the joint result of a high birth rate and the Australian immigration policy. Thus, the market presents important possibilities for both enterprising manufacturers and enterprising young people. Mr. Sutcliffe's view is that as both political parties are agreed on the future immigration policy, and there is a high standard of living, the vehicle total must rise rapidly. He observed a marked improvement in conditions since the time of his previous visit to Australia in 1947, and regards that continent as one of Britain's most promising export markets.

Leaving commercial considerations aside for the moment, Mr. Sutcliffe believes that the whole of his team are extremely conscious of the contribution their company are making to the development of safety on the roads. On the braking side there still remains much to be done in this connection, for, referring to a paper given before the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, he is able to quote figures which show that 90 per cent. of vehicles in a recent independent test revealed varying standards of efficiency, all of which would be regarded as dangerous by the braking boffins.

When he feels entitled to a break from braking, Mr. Sutcliffe's favourite relaxation is sailing. His boat is moored at Abersoch in North Wales, and if times does not permit the 140-mile journey, either tennis or gardening provides a change from the many questions associated with his life's work in the retardation of road vehicles, large and small.

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#### Appointment of Scottish **Authority Criticized**

FROM G. DUNCAN JEWELL

THERE is strong criticism among hauliers in northern Scotland of the appointment from September 1 of Mr. Ivo Townsend, M.B.E., to succeed Mr. Alexander Robertson as Scottish Deputy Licensing Authority. But this has nothing to do with Mr. Townsend personally, who, as a former clerk to the Scottish Licensing Authority, is well known and liked throughout Scotland.

Since his retirement from the position of clerk to the Scottish Licensing Authority, at Edinburgh, Mr. Townsend has been employed as licensing officer by Road Services (Caledonian), Ltd., Dumfries. This company has associations with Road Services (Forth), Ltd., who have bases in the Scottish (Northern) Area, and with the Alexander group of companies.

As a matter of principle, hauliers feel that no Licensing Authority should be put in such a position where his decisions might be criticized by disgruntled persons on the ground of bias.

It is also considered that the general principles adopted by the Ministry in making the appointment do not meet the needs of an Area with its own peculiar problems

When the appointment became vacant, representations were made that the Variations of Traffic Areas (Scotland) Order 1940, by which the Scottish Areas were joined as a temporary war-time measure, should be revoked. It was proposed that the Northern Scotland Area should revert to its pre-war status, with a Licensing Authority of its own.

More inquiries concerning haulage licences were held in the Northern Area than in the South, in 1959, and the volume of work justifies a full-term appointment.

The post involves journeys to the Orkneys, Shetlands, Hebrides, and places in the Highlands, where transport problems are such that they require continuity of policy over a reasonable period of time. The retiring Licensing Authority

has served the Area for 19 years, but local hauliers fear that Mr. Townsend. who stayed two years beyond the normal retiring age, at the request of the Ministry, will decide to end his tenure of office just when things have again settled

While officially the Road Haulage Association have accepted the situation, and feel that they can co-operate with a man they know and like, many important northern members are dissatisfied, and there is talk of raising these matters with local Members of Parliament.

Not unnaturally, individual hauliers do not seek publicity as they do not wish to affect good relations with the Licensing

#### MEAT CARRIERS ACQUIRED

THE Plymouth meat transport company of C. W. Bygrave, Ltd., has been acquired by Transport (Bristol), Ltd. Mr. Peter J. Wise is the sole director and Mr. C. W. Bygrave will now act as Plymouth representative of Transport (Bristol), Ltd., and associated companies.

Plans are in hand to build a cold store for meat and frozen foods near Plymouth Cattle Market which will link up with the network of depots established by the Wise Group of companies.

#### PROVISION FOR COMMERCIALS

THE Minister of Transport has been told by the Traders' Road Transport Association that provision for the parking of large commercial vehicles should be made in all future parking meter

#### Favourable Taxation Decisions Stav

DECISIONS in favour of hauliers made by the Special Commissioners of Income Tax will stand. This follows the withdrawal by the Inland Revenue of their request for a High Court opinion on two important principles. Mr. N. T. O'Reilly, a national vice-chairman of the Road Haulage Association and chairman of the finance committee, announced this at a meeting of the executive committee on Wednesday.

The first principle refers back to the Transport Act, 1947. In certain cases where compensation for nationalization was paid to hauliers, the income tax authorities were entitled to levy balancing charges in respect of the vehicles that were taken over.

The assessment of these charges was to be made by reference to open market value, and the income tax authorities had maintained that this was in effect the same as the compensation received for the vehicles from the British Transport Commission. The decision by the Special Commissioners, which is no longer challenged, is that in each case an independent valuation should be made to arrive at the open market value.

The second principle now finally established concerns the initial allowances hauliers are entitled to claim in respect of vehicles purchased from the B.T.C. under the Transport Act, 1953. The Commissioners agree with the contention, made on behalf of hauliers, that the price they paid for vehicles did not include an element representing the value for the special-A licences for which they were entitled to apply after purchase.

#### Fewer Vehicle Makers at the Show

THE number of vehicle manufacturers who will be exhibiting at the Commercial Motor Show, to be held at Earls Court from September 23 to October 1. has been reduced to 32. In 1958 there were 36. New names at this year's event will be Deutz and Mercedes-Benz from Germany, and Renault from France.

Makes exhibited in 1958 and absent this year are the French Chausson, the Czech Motokov, the British Maudslay. Reliant and Sunbeam, and the American Willys. The only trolleybuses in this year's Show will be B.U.T.

Foreign exhibitors are four from Germany and one from France. Makes to be exhibited are: A.E.C., Albion, Atkinson, Austin, Beardmore, B.U.T., Bedford, Commer, Daimler, Dennis, Dodge, Deutz, E.R.F., Foden, Guy, Goggomobil, Karrier, Leyland, Land-Rover, Mercedes-Benz, Morris-Commercial, Morris, Renault, Scammell, Seddon, Smith's N.C.B., Standard, Thames (Ford), Thornycroft, Trojan, Unipower and Volkswagen

There will be 82 exhibitors of bodywork and trailers. In the accessory and component section there will be 224 exhibitors, and in the transport service equipment section 44.

#### MORE FOR LORRY DRIVERS

UNDER an agreement between the Transport and General Workers' Union and the flour-milling industry outside the London area, drivers of vehicles exceeding 16-ton capacity are to receive an additional 10s. a week. Below that payload rating, the increase is 9s. a week.

Night shunters employed by members of the Pressed Brick Makers' Association are to receive an extra 3d. an hour. The concession does not apply to shunters who are paid a 12½ per cent. bonus for driving on the public highway under an agreement covering the operation of heavy vehicles at 30 m.p.h.

#### 12,000 PARCELS-" SMALL LOSS"

N one month, British Railways and British Road Services, Ltd., lost 12,000 parcels, it was reported at last week's meeting of the East Midland Transport Users' Consultative Committee. discussed the matter at the request of the National Union of Manufacturers, who complained both of losses and delivery

However, Prof. R. Peers, chairman, expressed his satisfaction with the road and rail services provided, saying that he was "astonished" that delays and losses should be so small in view of the amount and complexity of traffic being carried.

#### LEICESTER MAKE PROFIT

ALTHOUGH a large wage increase amounting to £37,000 was paid and new buses were added to the existing fleet strength, Leicester Transport Department made a profit of £24,978 during the past financial year. Revenue totalled £1,113,879, and new vehicles cost £78,000.

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#### Licensing Weakness Exposed at Contested Hearing on Tours

GLARING weakness in passenger licensing was exposed at Newcastle A GLAKING weakless in passenger necessing management A last week, when the Northern General Transport Co., Ltd., strongly opposed an application by Mr. R. L. Hardwick, 28 Jubilee Road, Eston, Middlesbrough, to vary excursions and tours licences from Middlesbrough, Redcar and Billingham via Dover to the Continent. He asked the Northern Traffic Commissioners for permission to add an alternative route by air, via Southend, and introduce 14- and 16-day tours and an additional tour to Belgium and Holland.

One objection was that the applicant's proposed road fare from Teesside to Southend, at £3 7s. 6d., would undercut the existing fare of £4. It was also pointed out that his existing fare to Dover, at £3 15s., granted in January, 1959, was well below the standard fare of £5 10s. Mr. J. L. R. Croft, for Northern General, submitted that £3 7s. 6d. was uneconomic if proper trade

union rates were paid to drivers.

Mr. Hardwick said that his drivers were paid more than standard rates. He suggested that the £4 fare of the company to Southend was inherited from a Braithwaite Tour application for an excursion to Southend only, including a fantail to Clacton (The Commercial Motor, April 22). The public should not be asked to pay higher fares and Northern General ought to come into line with his own fares, he added.

Questioned by Mr. Croft concerning a statement that he could operate cheaper by air than sea when the party rate was £3 5s, 6d. by sea and £4 13s, 8d. by air, Mr. Hardwick replied that by filling a charter plane both ways the air fare could be cut to £2 19s.

The applicant was catering for working-class people on Teesside, said Mr. T. H. Campbell Wardlaw, who represented Mr. Hardwick. Some 2,354 had booked for licensed tours to Ostend and Blankenberg in 1960.

#### Private Travel Not Evidence

After hearing supporting evidence by four of 10 witnesses in court, Mr. Croft submitted that private party travel was not evidence for an additional tour, especially as only one witness had used Hardwick's licensed services.

The applicant had entered the licensed Continental tour business in 1959, on the plea that he was catering for people who could not afford expensive tours. Longer periods and higher fares were now sought. The application to operate via Southend was made only after Northern General were granted a short-term licence to do so. That company's application, later in the day, would reduce the prices of eight-ten-day tours to Holland, Ostend, Paris and Montreux, in 1961, from £30 to £20. The eight-day Ostend tour, under short-term licence, would be reduced in cost by £1 to £19.

Mr. Campbell Wardlaw submitted that Northern General were now seeking tours at popular prices for the first time and Hardwick was, in reality, the established operator. The company wanted a free hand in Western Europe yet objected to Hardwick.

Mr. J. A. T. Hanlon, chairman, said that the Commissioners agreed with the objectors that 16-day tours were in a different class from those licensed. They were prepared to give variety by granting additional coach-sea tours via Dover to Brussels, Amsterdam and Scheveningen for four or nine days, and for coach-air tours via Southend to Ostend and Blankenberg. But, he said, the road fares must be £5 10s. and £4 respectively to bring them into line with standard fares. The Commissioners had no control over the remainder of the charges and although higher road fares would be shown on the licence, the total cost of the tours would remain the same.

The application, by Northern General, to add nine Continental tours via Southend; covering France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Austria and Germany, to licences originating from Newcastle upon Tyne, Whitley Bay and Durham, was granted. There was no opposition following the withdrawal of an out-of-time objection

by Mr. Hardwick.

#### Two Pipeline Schemes Authorized

TWO underground pipeline schemes, which together will cost about £3.3m., were authorized last week when the Esso Petroleum Bill was approved by a House of Commons Select Committee.

A representative of the Ministry of Power told the committee that the Minister regarded the projects as being in the national interest. The Bill, as amended, will now be reported to the House of Commons for a third reading. It still has to go to the House of Lords.

The Bill authorizes the construction of pipeline to carry petroleum spirit from the refinery at Fawley to West Bedfont, Middlesex, principally to supply London Airport, and another one to carry ethylene gas to Avonmouth for the new Severnside Works of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.

#### **OUTPUT UP BY 10.271**

OUTPUT of goods vehicles in June, at 46,674, was 10,271 greater than in May. The weekly average rate of production in June was 9,335. Exports of goods vehicles fell from the May figure of 12,721 to 11,358, but this level was still 1,691 higher than that of June,

Last month's output of passenger vehicles totalled 1,710 at a weekly average of 342. The number of exports was 552. In June, 1959, 1,735 passenger vehicles were made and 286 were exported. These figures were issued by the Board of Trade on Monday.

#### B.R.S. Likely to Lose Farm Traffic

EVIDENCE that British Road Services were in danger of losing a considerable volume of traffic in agricultural produce was presented to Mr. S. W. Nelson, Western Licensing Authority, at Bristol last week, when S.C.C. Transport (Devizes), Ltd., applied for three additional vehicles of 121 tons and one semitrailer of 44 tons on A licence.

A normal user of "general goods, mainly eggs, fruit, fencing, agricultural and horticultural produce and requisites, and animal feeding stuffs, normally within

400 miles" was applied for.

A number of growers who had previously used B.R.S. supported the application and spoke of receiving a letter from B.R.S. which stated that rates would be increased. The figures also revealed that S.C.C. Transport were carrying substantially for the British Egg Marketing Board.

Mr. George Attwood, manager of J. Bibby and Sons, Ltd., said that the traffic which they were now handing over to S.C.C. Transport, which would increase, was previously carried by British Railways. The railways were unable to offer sufficient storage space but the applicants

Mr. William Streak, representing Wallace Son and Wells, Ltd., agricultural merchants, stated that they had purchased a new mill at Devizes to manufacture animal feeding stuffs, but this had not yet got into operation. They also had an export trade in barley to Belgium. was new traffic in the district and they

wished the applicants to deal with it. For B.R.S. who objected, Mr. Leslie Jenkins said that he wanted it clearly understood that B.R.S. had conveyed fruit, vegetables and flowers for the local growers for a considerable time. agreed that growers had been advised of a rate increase, but stated that B.R.S. had never said that they would not do the work.

Speaking of the egg traffic, Mr. Jenkins said that B.R.S. had conveyed for the Board over the past 9-10 years without complaint. In January they had caused delay on a consignment to East Anglia Egg Products, Ltd., as a result of a strike. Since then the traffic had been lost, and whereas earnings from the B.E.M.B. for the first six months of 1959 were £5,027, for the corresponding period this year they were £391.

Giving decision Mr. Nelson said: "I am satisfied something is required here because the present vehicles are fully occupied. Naturally B.R.S. are concerned over the loss of the egg traffic, but I cannot dictate to the customers who shall move their goods." He granted two vehicles including an "artic," but excluded eggs from the normal user.

#### A Great Loss to the Industry

RIBUTES to the late Mr. Frank Milton (see Obituary below) were paid last week by Mr. J. A. T. Northern Licensing Hanlon. Authority, Mr. J. L. R. Croft and Mr. T. H. Campbell Wardlaw.

Mr. Hanlon said: "There is no question that his death will be a great loss to the Northern Traffic Area in particular, and to the road haulage

industry in general."

Speaking on behalf of the British Transport Commission, Mr. Croft said that Mr. Milton had been a fearless opponent, but a very good friend. It was he, as much as anybody else, who had enabled the smooth operation of the 1933 Act to continue.

Mr. Campbell Wardlaw recalled that Mr. Milton had guided the industry in the North of England through many varied difficulties dur-ing the past 20 years. He had given his very best-" very nearly too much of his physical powers"-in the cause and interest of his members.

#### Obituary

WE regret to record the deaths of Mr. Frank Milton, Mr. Arthur MR. ARTHUR WOOLNOUGH, MR. RAY BROWNE and MR. R. J. ELMES.

Mr. Milton, who died last week at the age of 61, was secretary of the northern area of the Road Haulage Association. Before joining the R.H.A. he was a member of the staff of Blaney and Co., Ltd., Gateshead. He acted as area secretary of the Long Distance Road Haulage Association and became the area secretary for the R.H.A., and later of Associated Road Operators. At the time the Road and Rail Traffic Act came into force, he was responsible for setting up the association's licensing advisory system for the area. He was also area secretary for the Traders' Road Transport Association, Passenger Vehicle Operators' Association and the National Road Transport Federation.

Mr. Woolnough was production manager of the Luton and Dunstable factories of Vauxhall Motors, Ltd. He became Dunstable factory manager in 1954 and three years later returned to the Luton plant. He was appointed production manager of the two factories only

last month.

Mr. Browne, also of Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., spent 23 years in the parts department. He was made manager of the parts stores in 1947 and was largely responsible for the planning of the present warehouse.

Mr. Elmes, who was sales director of Transport Brakes, Ltd., died last week following several months' illness. He joined the company when it was formed 25 years ago and was associated with the activities of the sales department throughout.

#### Men in the News

MR. H. D. OLIVER has been elected to the board of Lavstall Engineering Co.,

MR. G. McKAY, assistant general manager and chief engineer of United Automobile Services, Ltd., has been appointed chief engineer of the Tilling Group.

MR. ERNEST R. BEECH has resigned from the board of the Ford Motor Co., This follows his recent retirement as chairman of the Ford Motor Co. of America

MR. A. E. NORTHROP has joined Thomas Greenwood's Sons, Ltd., Halifax, as commercial vehicle sales manager. He was previously employed by Oswald Tillotson, Ltd., Bradford, for 32 years, latterly as area manager.

MR. W. BLUNT has retired as general manager of Brockhouse Castings, Ltd. He has been made a director and will continue to serve the company in an advisory capacity. He is succeeded by Mr. J. GRIEVE.

MR. H. G. W. CHICHESTER-MILES of Empire Rubber Co., and Rubber Bonders, Ltd., has been elected president of the Federation of British Rubber and Allied Manufacturers. Mr. S. D. SUTTON of Vendip, Ltd., and Mr. C. H. M. BAKER of the Firestone Tyre and Rubber Co., Ltd., have been elected vice-presidents of the Federation.

MR. S. D. HERINGTON, a practising solicitor in London, has been appointed to the board of Lancashire United Transport, Ltd.

MR. S. G. MUNDY, managing director of Crypton Equipment, Ltd., has been elected president of the Garage Equipment Association.

MR. FRANK WHEELER was last week re-elected chairman and MR, E. W. Voller vice-chairman of the Road Haulage Association's national licensing committee.

MR. D. O. Good, a national vicechairman of the Road Haulage Association, was on Monday elected chairman the National Road Transport of Federation.

MR. D. G. STOKES, sales and service director of Leyland Motors, Ltd., will succeed Mr. W. E. PEARSON, managing director of Scammell Lorries, Ltd., when he retires this week-end. Mr. Stokes' other responsibilities within the Group are not affected

MR. H. B. T. WILDE has been appointed chairman of Smith's Stamping Works (Coventry), Ltd., in place of the late MR. S. BRAMHALL. MR. H. F. W. PERRY and MR. H. M. H. Fox are now joint managing directors. Mr. W. N. SMITH has joined the board and MR. G. WARRINER has become a director of Smith-Clayton Forge, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Coventry

#### New Transport Companies

P. E. Peate and Sons, Ltd. Cap. £5.000. Dirs.:

i. E. Peate, 20a Lichfield Road, Walsall, and F. E. Leate, inr., 132 Wednesbury Road, Walsall, Sec.:

E. Peate, 1nr. Reg. office: Townend Garage, 30 Green Lane, Walsall.

Northampton Coachbuilders, Ltd. Cap. £1,000, 107; S. B. Skes, 41 Booth Lane North, Northmpton, and C. Robinson, Sambra, Broadway, Sorthampton, and C. Robinson, Sambra, Broadway, 100 Green Lane, 1

Dirs.: B. Sykes, 41 Booth Lane North, Northampton, and C. Robinson, Sambra, Broadway, Northampton, S. (Bircotes), Ltd. Cap. £10,000. Dirs.: E. P. Morris, Grosvenor Road, Bircotes, near Doncaster: H. Morris, North Bungalow, Grosvenor Road, Bircotes, and G. Wade, 16 Fourth Avenue, Woodlands East, Doncaster, Sec.: E. P. Morris, Reg., office: Grosvenor Road, Bircotes, and G. Wade, 16 Fourth Avenue, Woodlands East, Doncaster, Sec.: E. P. Morris, Reg., office: Grosvenor Road, Bircotes, Southatte Garage (Trausport), Ltd. Cap. £100. Dirs.: W. G. Wheeler, and L. M. Wheeler, Southatte Garage, Llantrisant. Sec.: R. J. Mathias, Reg., office: 77 Taff Street, Pontypridd. Briery Hill Transport Co., Ltd. Cap. £1,500. Dirs.: E. Jones, Northview, Marlpit Lane, Newton, Porthcawl, and S. F. Hill, 14 Sion Row, Briery Hill, Ebbw Vale, Mon. Sec.: L. Hill. Reg. office: Central Station, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil. Railearry Haulage, Ltd. Cap. £100, Subs.; Herbert and T. A. Herbert, 156 Strand, London, W.C.2. Sec.: T. A. Herbert, 156 Strand, London, W.C.2. Sec.: T. A. Herbert, R. Dowabty and Son (Conches), Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.: W. C. Doughty and Mrs. G. I. Doughty, R. Goodwins Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk, Sec.: W. C. Doughty, Reg. office: 26 King Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, Sec.: E. M. Fordham, Bell Lane, Fenstanton, Sec.: E. M. Fordham, Reg. office: 14 The Broadway, St. Ives, Hunts.

C. Cameron, Ltd. Cap. £1,00. Dirs.: Mennett, 32 Unicorn Road, Liverpool, 5; W. Bennett, 32 Unicorn Road, Liverpool, 11, and W. T. Cameron, Reg. office Stanley Street, Liverpool, 5. W. Herbert, 1500.

W. T. Cameron. Reg. office: 68 Stanley Street, Liverpool, 5.

Wearing (London), Ltd. Cap. £100. Dirs.; Wearing (London), Ltd. Cap. £100. Dirs.; Wearing. A. Wearing. 49 Raydean Road, Barnet, Sec.: W. R. Wearing. Reg. office: 100 Park Street, London, W.1.

J. and J. (Haulngel, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.; J. Crampton, 92 Childwell Valley Road, Liverpool, 16, and J. Beer, 22 Wirrall Mount, West Kirby. Sec.: J. A. Beer, Reg. office: 5 Rumford Place, Liverpool.

Edward Anslow, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.: E Anslow. Neachells Lanc. Willenhall. Staffs, and F. Anslow. 28 Woodhouse Road. Tettenhall. Wolverhampton. Sec.: Mrs. L. M. Anslow. Res. office: Neachells Lanc. Willenhall.

Wilks and McDonough Transport, Ltd. Cap. 8500. Dirs.: R. L. Wilks, 34 Milner Road. Gillingham. Kent, G. W. T. McDonough, 20 Marley Way, Rochester, Kent, and C. Goodwin, Trevone. Ash. Sevenoaks. Kent. Sec.: C. Goodwin, Reg. office: 59a High Street, Rochester. Vehicle Delivery Specialists (Oxford), Ltd. Cap. 8250. Dirs.: L. Thomas. 9. Sycaptor Commer.

2250. Dirs.: I. Thomas, 9 Spencer Crescent, Rose Hill, Oxford, G. W. Hillman, 31 Beech Road, Elm Rise, Botley, near Oxford, and Miss II, E. Bennett, Sec.: Miss H. E. Bennett, Reg. office: 31 Beech Road, Elms Rise, Botley.

Chapmans' (Transport), Ltd. Cap. £500. Dirs.:
J. H. Chapman and R. J. Chapman. The Chalet.
Dorset Road. Tunbridge Wells. Sec.: R. J.
Chapman. Reg. office: The Chalet, Dorset Road.
Tunbridge Wells.

Norman's Removal and Transport Services, Life.
Cap. £10,000. Dirs.: R. Norman. 44 Parrs Wood
Avenue. Manchester. 20. F. Norman, 20 Deneford
Road, Didsbury. Manchester, and D. Norman, 2
Ridley Grove. Sale. Cheshire. Sec.: D. Norman,
Reg. office: 44 Parrs Wood Avenue, Manchester.

H. W. Willment, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Diss: H. W. Willment and Mrs. P. D. J. Willment. 5 Douglas Street, London, S.W.1. Reg. office; 5 Douglas Street, London, S.W.1.

Douglas Street. London, S.W.I.

Rullrica Hanlage, Ltd. Cap. £100. Subs.: J.

Herbert and T. A. Herbert, 156 Strand, London,
W.C.2. Sec.: T. A. Herbert.

A. Barnes and Son, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.:

J. Barnes and Son, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.:

J. Barnes and Son, Ltd. Cap. £1,000. Dirs.:

J. Barnes and Son, Ltd. Cap. £500. Dirs.:

F. W. Webber, Ltd. Cap. £500. Dirs.: F. W.

Webber and H. M. Webber, 10 Birbeck Gardens,
Woodford Green, Essex, and W. Webber, 112

Kinesway, Ponders End, Middx. Sec.: F. W.

Webber, Reg. office: 43-45 Oakhurst Road,

Freezywater, Enfield, Middx.

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Dirs.: F. W.
Birbeck Gardens.
W. Webber. 112
C. Sec.: F. W.
Oakhurst Road.

#### M1 Shadows: No Action Yet

No immediate action would be taken concerning the shadows on M1, Mr. Ernest Marples, Minister of Transport, told the House of Commons, this week, in answer to a question by Mr. Albert Roberts (Lab., Normanton), writes our Parliamentary Correspondent. The present position, he said, is that the police have been asked to report, the Road Research Laboratory is considering the matter and the Ministry is reviewing that evidence which is already available.

There are to be no toll charges for using the second Blackwall Tunnel, which is due to open for traffic in 1965. There were special reasons for this, Mr. Marples told Mr. N. N. Dodds (Lab., Erith), who asked why there should be no charges when tolls would be imposed for using the new Dartford-Purfleet Tunnel.

Mr. Marples explained that the new Blackwall Tunnel would cater only for one-way traffic, and because no tolls were charged on the existing tunnel, which would also become one-way, it would be ridiculous to charge tolls on the new one.

The suggestion, by Mr. Gresham Cooke (Cons., Twickenham), that the demerit points system as operated in Ontario should be used here, was rejected by Mr. Marples. He said that he was not at present satisfied that the system was suitable for this country. Under this scheme an accumulation of 12 points for driving offences over a two-year period brought suspension of the driving licence for three months.

Asked by Mr. A. Wedgwood Benn (Lab., Bristol S.E.) whether the Ministry were studying the experiences of foreign

countries in respect of road safety, Mr. Marples said that a very good film on the subject would be showing soon.

Manufacturers and other interested in regulations governing traffic indicators are to be consulted about possible new regulations. Mr. John Hay, Joint Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Transport, told Sir Gerald Wills (Cons., Bridgwater) this, and said the Ministry were studying recommendations made at an international meeting last month, with a view to allying them to British regulations.

Asked by Mr. Wingfield Digby (Cons., Dorset W.) whether he would consider replacing white lines on roads by yellow ones, Mr. Marples pointed out that yellow markings had been prescribed to indicate that loading and unloading was prohibited. The texture of marking materials was more important than the colour, and cat's eyes gave the best

#### COMPETITION CHANGES

definition at night, he said.

THE annual drawing and handicraft competition arranged by the Institute British Carriage and Automobile Manufacturers is to be replaced by two separate competitions offering larger and more numerous prizes. One will deal with automobile body design and the other with motor vehicle body crafts.

This year the design competition will cover private cars and next year it will relate only to commercial and public service vehicles. The annual alternation of subjects will operate from then onwards although the body craft competition will

be held each year.

#### Coal Trade Conditions Changing.

CHANGING conditions in the coal trade were given as the reason for seeking a new B licence, when Mr. David Lang, 2 William Street, Coatbridge, applied at Glasgow, last week, for one vehicle of 41 tons to be acquired.

Mr. Lang said that although his contract-licence vehicle with Forth and Clyde Coal Co., Ltd., had been well employed for a number of years, 1959 saw a substantial drop in coal trade. Forth and Clyde were prepared to maintain employment but on a free licence, if that could be granted. The new condition sought was the addition of bricks and cement for the Glasgow Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Wishaw, over 60 miles.

The move emphasized the current trend in coal trading, said Mr. E. Ferguson, a director of Forth and Clyde. had C-licensed vehicles off the road at present, and would prefer a B licence in place of the existing contract-A. The National Coal Board had restricted traffic from small mines in favour of their own collieries and rail transport. The main value of the licence would be in lifting from non-rail sites and also in handling by road from rail wagons at the arrival point.

Mr. J. Rew, for Glasgow Iron and

Steel Co., said that they had a brickworks at Motherwell and that their competitors were able to give better delivery. Same-day delivery was often necessary in the brick trade, while seasonal factors made suitable transport most important. They had no rail connection and required to use road They would be able to give vehicles. the applicant substantial business because contractors in the area were apparently more interested in steel and machinery transport than bricks.

Mr. W. F. Quin, Scottish Licensing Authority, granted the application.

#### PROFIT AND LOSS

Motor Rail, Ltd., £6,423 group loss before tax.

Motor Rail, Ltd., £6,423 group loss before tax. No dividend,
Cardiff Transport Department, £81,059 profit.
Passengers 87.1m.
Lodge Plugs, Ltd., £95,680 group net profit after £71,201 tax. Year's dividends 20 per cent., including 2½ per cent. bonus.
West Hartlepool Transport Department, £13,270 net profit. Passengers carried during year fell by 2,68 per cent. compared with previous 12 months.
Northamptoo Transport Department, £11,345 net profit. Revenue £456,806: working expenses £406,214; gross profit £50,592. Passengers 37.6m. (Increase of 368,391); mileage 3m.
Sanderland Transport Department, £101,940 gross profit. £17,006 transferred to reserve fund after meeting £84,934 loan charges and other expenditure. Passengers carried, 85,284,107. Mileage, 6,876,208. Receipts, £884,293.

#### 4-ton Vehicle Added to A Licence

A SUCCESSFUL A licence application for one vehicle of 4 tons to be acquired, was made by Robert Mitchell and Co., Ltd., Biggar, to Mr. W. F. Quin, Scottish Licensing Authority, at Glasgow, last week. For the company, Mr. J. B. T. Loudon said that the normal user sought was the same as that already operating on five vehicles engaged on general goods, mainly milk, feeding stuffs, etc.

Mr. James Reid, transport manager of Mitchell, said that there had been large increases in earnings and in sub-contracting during 1959, but that they had extreme difficulty in getting subcontractors. British Road Services had only one vehicle per week in the area and there was only one train daily.

Evidence of increasing seasonal demand for fertilizers, feeding stuffs and other agricultural commodities was given by Mr. John Warnock, who represented Bowie and Aram, Ltd., Paisley, agricultural merchants. This was confirmed by Mr. John Yule, a representative of Scottish Agricultural Industries, Ltd., at Biggar, who said that delays in obtaining vehicles of up to a week had been experienced.

Mr. Quin, granting the application. said that he was satisfied there was a need as there had been no local opposition.

#### ROAD TRANSPORT BETTER FOR SMALL ANIMALS

ROAD transport was better than rail for the long-distance transport of small animals, Mr. W. P. James, West Midland Licensing Authority, was told at Hanley last week. John Haydon and Sons (Biddulph), Ltd., applied to add a 15-cwt. vehicle to their B licence to carry "small

livestock, as required."

Mr. L. Condy, Leek, cattle dealer, said that rail transport required calves' legs to be tied in bags. As a result, the animals arrived at the destination in poor condition. Many customers now stipulated road delivery.

Large lorries were also unsuitable, he added, because young animals should not be mixed with other stock.

Mr. J. Haydon stated that he required the vehicle to carry sheep and pigs to farms which could not be reached by larger lorries.

For British Railways, who objected. Mr. G. H. P. Beames said that the evidence did not justify a wide radius.

Mr. James limited the vehicle to the carriage of sheep, pigs and galves within 30 miles.

#### VOLVO CROSS-COUNTRY UNIT

SMALL cross-country vehicles are to be included in the production programme of Volvo, the Swedish manufacturers. Quantity production will start next year and the Swedish Army has already ordered over 1,000 units.

The vehicle, to be produced in several military and civilian versions, is des-cribed as a universal unit with higher capacity than similar cross-country vehicles



Dennis Bros., Ltd., have produced this aircraft loader, which is based on a Vulture chassis with a Perkins P6 engine. In its lowest position, the platform, which incorporates a roller conveyor, is 3 ft. 10 in. from the ground when carrying the specified load of 5 tons. It can be raised to 12 ft. above ground level. The lifting mechanism is controlled from a point adjacent to the cab and at another at the off side rear of the vehicle. Hydraulically operated wedges lock the platform at any height, and the mechanism is hydraulically and electrically interlocked when stationary as a further precaution.

#### Railways Lend Vans to Employees

To save the cost of employing furniture removers, drivers employed by British Railways are allowed to use their employers' vans to transfer their goods from house to house, and are charged merely time and mileage.

This situation was outlined at Bradford City Court, last week, when a driver using a B.R. van on personal removal work found that he was not covered by insurance. He denied the offence, but was fined £10.

The man, James Edward Fagan, Plover Street, Little Horton (Yorks), explained in court that he was acting with the approval of his foreman when he loaded up the van from his previous home at Roundhill Street, Bradford. He produced his railway driver's record sheet to show that the work was completed.

Another railway driver supported his contention over vehicle loans, adding that the transport of furniture need not be fed out to specialists. The railways would always give permission for one of their vans to be used on the job.

However, Sgt. Thomas L. Penn, for the prosecution, said the railway van's insurance did not cover Fagan's private work. A constable had checked and found that the third-party insurance was valid only for the vehicle's use in connection with the railways' business as a transport undertaking.

In court Fagan declared that the railways had not charged him for the use of the vehicle as a removal van since hearing of the impending court case. Nothing had been said by his superiors, in fact.

#### "Pirate" Haulier Pays £590 in Fines

A "FORMER builder who ran a prize "haulage business even after he had been warned, was prosecuted by the Eastern Licensing Authority, at Southend, last week, and fined a total of £590.

Frank Slater, Mount Road, Benfleet, Essex, was fined £5 on each of 118 summonses which charged him with using nine heavy goods vehicles during February and March, to carry goods for hire or reward, when he did not hold a carrier's licence.

He pleaded guilty, but Mr. V. Moorfoot, defending, said that Slater knew nothing about the regulations B32

regarding licences. All his lorries had now been surrendered to hire-purchase concerns.

Mr. W. F. Bestley, prosecuting, said that Slater's gross profits during the two months were £2.322. Trading as R. E. Transport, Morris Road, Canvey Island, he had operated a "pirate" haulage service for five different concerns.

After a warning, Slater said he was taking over A licences from three different concerns, but did not do so, continued Mr. Bestley. He made no application for licences and other operators had no opportunity to object as they would have done had his application been published.

#### Increased Turnover Impresses Objectors

FOLLOWING the production of operating figures the British Transport Commission withdrew objection to an application by Mr. H. Nixon, trading as Messrs. T. Nixon, at Newcastle upon Tyne, last week. Mr. J. A. T. Hanlon, Northern Licensing Authority, granted an additional vehicle of 4½ tons on A licence.

Presenting figures for the past three years, which showed an increase in annual turnover from £8,871 to £15,960, Mr. Nixon added: "This is the first time in 40 years that we have asked for an extra vehicle."

His present licence covered the carriage of agricultural produce, excluding live-stock, by three A-licensed vehicles, said Mr. Nixon. He also had one more vehicle working on contract-A licence for a concern of agricultural merchants.

For the B.T.C. Mr. I. Robey said that had the applicant been invited to a meeting of the Road and Rail Negotiating Committee he was sure the matter would have been thrashed out there.

#### GRANT TO MEET BURDEN OF FIVE-DAY WEEK

BECAUSE of difficulties caused by a customer changing over to a five-day week, an application for two additional vehicles to be placed on their B licence was granted to J. R. Adams (Newcastle, Ltd., by Mr. J. A. T. Hanlon, Northern Licensing Authority, at Newcastle upon Tyne, last week.

For the applicants, Mr. T. H. Campbell Wardlaw said that the published application was: "Goods for British Oxygen Gases as required." His clients, however, did not require such wide conditions and wished to amend the radius to within 35 miles of Newcastle. The traffic, which Adams had been carrying for many years, was not attractive to the average haulier.

British Oxygen had recently introduced a five-day week, which imposed a greater burden on the normal day's work. The British Transport Commission, who had originally objected, withdrew when the conditions were amended.

#### ARE BALL-PENS AN ENGINEERING PRODUCT?

THE classification of ball-pens as an engineering product was questioned at Bristol, last week, when Mr. F. Toghill, Coalpit Heath, near Bristol, was granted a B licence for one vehicle of 18 cwt. to carry light engineering products within 100 miles. He claimed that the pens were engineering products.

The application was opposed by British Railways. Making the grant, Mr. S. W. Nelson, Western Licensing Authority, advised Mr. Toghill not to treat the award as a back way into general haulage.

#### A DAY LATER

BECAUSE of the August Bank Holiday, the next issue of *The Commercial* Motor will be published on Saturday, August 6, instead of Friday, August 5. July 29

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July 29, 1960

#### Three Operators Propose to Link

PROPOSAL to link the catchment A area of excursions and tours licences relating to three separate companies, Yelloway Motor Services, Ltd., and their associates, Creams (Lancashire), Ltd., and Johnston Brothers (Middleton), Ltd., was put before the North Western Traffic Commissioners, at Manchester, on

Mr. F. D. Walker, for the applicants, said that there were 27 picking-up points in an area of 35 sq. miles surrounding Oldham, with focal points at Fountain Street, Middleton and Mumps, Oldham. British Railways, the objectors, had been met by excluding period excursions and counting each vehicle operating against all licences involved, except where points

The Minister, in the Altrincham Coachways appeal had indicated that a saving in the use of vehicles was justification for linking, if there were no overriding considerations, he continued. The express operators did not object in principle when no advantage was sought by aggregation of vehicles

A grant would give more economic operation without improving their position in relation to competitors. Two of the five licences concerned, that of Creams' former Merriway licence and Johnston's, were involved in extensive irregular linking before their takeover.

The proposals would legally meet the public need thus created.

Mr. F. Williamson, chairman, said that the linking of separate companies was the first application of its kind, and the repercussions among other operators would have to be considered. Some degree of ferrying, confined to each company rather than jointly, might be the best solution.

If linking were granted for 12 months, said Mr. Hubert Allen, general manager, of Yelloway, they would then be pre-pared to apply for Yelloway or Creams to take over the Johnston licence; and either Yelloway or Creams to take over the other's Oldham licence. This would then put the whole operation under one

Mr. J. Booth, for British Railways, said that their objection was only withdrawn on the understanding that a formula could be found to prevent additional competition. Vehicles saved as a result of linking or ferrying must not be used for additional excursions. The count must be taken in the catchment area and at the departure point. Although in this case the objection was not pursued it must not be thought that they agreed to the principle of catchment area linking.

Reserving decision, Mr. Williamson said that the whole question would have to be explored by the Commissioners.

#### Mr. James Warns Against Boycott

DROSPECTIVE passengers who had said that if a licence were not granted to a particular operator they would rather walk to work than ride with anyone else, were warned about the probable effects of a boycott by Mr. W. P. James, chairman, West Midland Traffic Commissioners, at Birmingham on Tuesday.

"If the public boycott a service which has been provided for their benefit-it will be their responsibility if the service has to be withdrawn. It will be little use their coming along later and saying that they want a service," said Mr. James

The Commissioners granted an application by the North Western Road Car Co., Ltd., to run a works stage service from Biddulph and Congleton, Staffs, to the factory of A. V. Roe, Ltd., at Woodford.

They refused an application by Mr. Arthur Smith, Albert Street, Biddulph, an employee at the factory, to run a similar service. Mr. Smith said that he would appeal.

The hearing of Mr. Smith's application began in May but it was adjourned when North Western, who opposed it, intimated that they were preparing a similar application. The two applications were heard together on Tuesday, when Mr. Smith objected to the North Western application.

Mr. Smith produced supporting letters from Biddulph Urban District Council, the Avro joint shop stewards' committee and the Congleton branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

For the company, Mr. Anthony Rothera said that they took over a similar service from Bostock's in 1957. but, he alleged, owing to illegal operation by Mr. Smith, their passengers were lost, and in October, 1959, the service was discontinued.

He described evidence called by Mr. Smith, the gist of which was that workers would rather give up their jobs than travel with North Western, as "fantastically illogical."

Giving decision, Mr. James said that if there were illegal competition with the company the Commissioners would use the law to stop it if they could obtain sufficient evidence.

#### MINISTER TO OPEN Ro.S.P.A. CONGRESS

THIS year's National Safety Congress organized by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, will be opened on October 18 at Central Hall, London, S.W.1, by Mr. Ernest Marples, Minister of Transport.

The road-safety forum will take place during the following day under the chairmanship of Sir Richard Nugent, M.P. One of the speakers at the Congress dinner, to be held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, London, W.1, on October 18, will be Lord Chesham, Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport.

#### A "Tragedy" Says Mr. Burnell

A PERSONAL message from Mr. J. B. Burnell, operating manager of London Transport's central road services, which described the rejection of London Transport's bonus scheme by busmen as a "tragedy," was posted at central was posted at central garages on Tuesday.

This is the latest move, and a distinctly different approach to the problem of increasing staff shortages which now total some 5,000.

Last week, when London Transport were told officially that workers had rejected their bonus scheme, they warned that services might have to be cut. They also said that if busmen did not agree to one-man operations, at least one service might be handed over to private operators.

When Mr. A. Townsend, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, asked about the prospects of a direct pay rise as opposed to bonus schemes, he received a blunt "No" in reply.

#### INQUIRY TO SURRENDER LICENCES?

F a bus operator has to state a case before the Traffic Commissioners when he wants to inaugurate a service, a similar procedure should be enforced when he proposes to hand in a licence. This suggestion has been sent to the Ministry of Transport by Lindsey County Council, who are alarmed that country bus services can be relinquished without a public inquiry.

Meeting in Lincoln, this week, the council was told that when the Lincolnshire Road Car Co., Ltd., surrendered their Louth-Horncastle stage licence, about five or six villages would have no public transport. He suggested that if a company decided to give up a non-paying service, the Commissioners should order them to surrender a profitable one, too. In this way, another operator might be persuaded to take over both without fear of making a loss on the unremunerative

#### NEW AIR SERVO INTRODUCED

A NEW air-servo unit known as the Airpak, has been introduced by Clayton Dewandre Co., Ltd. A particular advantage of the system, in addition to its compactness, is that the compressor and servo are completely interchangeable with a matching exhauster and Hydrovac unit, so that similar vehicles may have air or vacuum braking without extensive modification.

Power for the Airpak is derived from a new single-cylindered compressor into which is built the unloader mechanism. The servo unit has an integral air reservoir, and the power piston is connected directly to the hydraulic cylinder which supplies the wheel cylinders. In the event of air failure, the braking system acts as a normal unassisted hydraulic

A full description of this new servo layout will be published in next week's issue.

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July 29.

#### Brick Company Warned to Employ Properly Licensed Hauliers

A STAFFORDSHIRE industrial concern, the Birchenwood Brick and Tile Co., Ltd., was publicly warned by Mr. W. P. James, West Midland Licensing Authority, at Hanley, last week. He said that they would be in trouble unless they took more care to ensure that their hauliers' vehicles were properly licensed to do their work.

This followed the suspension of vehicles licensed to Norman Green (Fenton), Ltd., trading as Dilhorne Coal Co., Atlas Street, Fenton, and T. Wilkes and Son, 62 Greenbank Road, Tunstall, for carrying for the brick company in

breach of licence conditions.

Giving evidence against the Dilhorne Coal Co., Mr. K. J. Burris, a traffic examiner to the West Midland Licensing Authority, said he stopped a vehicle of their fleet loaded with bricks for Wilmslow, Cheshire, outside the brick works on May 11. The vehicle was authorized under B licence to carry coal within 15 miles of base.

Following a visit to Mr. Ainge, manager of Birchenwood, it was discovered that three vehicles were concerned in breaches of B-licence conditions on 104 different dates between March and mid-May. Two of the vehicles were authorized only for coal and the third for other goods up to 20 miles. Payment for the illegal work amounted to £1,013, less certain journeys within the radius of the

third vehicle.

Mr. N. W. Green, snr., secretary and director of Norman Green (Fenton), Ltd., haulage contractors, coal merchants and factors, said that the Dilhorne company, originally a subsidiary of a local colliery, was purchased by his company in 1954. Mr. H. Weaver, who had been the manager since 1944, continued in their employment. He had been left in sole charge and there had been no examination of books or records, except through their accountants.

#### Fortnightly Conferences

There had been fortnightly conferences with Mr. Weaver until March 16, when he became ill and was away from duty until the end of May, added Mr. Green. From the time of the purchase Dilhorne's vehicles were engaged mainly on opencast work and during this period he thought they were engaged as usual or standing.

Mr. Weaver admitted full responsibility. He said that he was in complete control and none of Green's directors knew of the brick work. Open-cast coal had ceased and it was the first time he had

reason to look for work.

For Greens, Mr. G. C. Tinsdill pleaded guilty, but in mitigation he submitted that although guilty in law there was no moral guilt. The illegal work had not been sanctioned by the perent company.

The two lorries for coal haulage were suspended for August and September and the third vehicle for August only. Mr. James said that Green's, the licence holders, had "taken things for granted." They could not pass on their responsibilities as licence holders to their employees.

Mr. Burris said that he stopped the B-licensed vehicle of T. Wilkes and Son on May 11. It was loaded with bricks for Cheadle, Cheshire, which was well outside the specified radius of 10 miles. After checking, further breaches on 28 dates in April and May were discovered. Drivers' records, produced by Mr. K. Wilkes, did not agree with the brick company's records. A total of £384 had been paid, less some journeys within the radius.

Mr. K. Wilkes said that he had been going into Cheshire to try to obtain orders for bricks and thought it was legal to take the bricks with him. The licence had been in his name since 1947 but the vehicle had been operated by other members of the family until he took over 12 months ago.

Record Discrepancies

Questioned about record discrepancies, he said that a haulier friend telephoned him the previous day to tell him that the traffic examiner was coming the next morning. He suggested filling in fresh forms, showing operations within the legal radius, and this was done.

Suspending Wilkes' vehicle for the month of August, Mr. James said that the vehicle had not only been used in deliberate breach of conditions but the holder had then tried to cover-up by falsifying records. If he had been in a larger way of business the penalty would have

been much more severe.

Two following applications by T. Wilkes and Son: (1) To increase the licence radius to 60 miles for the Birchenwood Brick and Tile Co., Ltd., and (2) for an additional vehicle with a similar condition, were supported by Mr. W. Lovatt, under-manager of Birchenwood. He said that the present output of 600,000 bricks a week would increase to 1m. in the next three months.

Mr. James granted the increased radius for the existing vehicle, but warned that it must not be used before September 1. He refused the additional vehicle.

#### NEW ZEALAND TAX DROP

A REDUCTION in sales tax on motor vehicles, from 40 to 33½ per cent., was announced in New Zealand last week when the budget was presented. There will also be a reduction of 2d. per gallon in the price of petrol.

#### 4,350 VEHICLES ORDERED

THE largest agreement concluded at the Budapest Industrial Fair involved a £30m. contract between Hungary and East Germany. In the period 1962-65 Hungary is to supply D.I.A. Transportmaschinen with 3,200 buses, 900 dumpers and 250 lorries.

### Micrograms . .

Opening Today: New premises at Bradford Road, Batley, are being opened today by Arthur Reid (Batley), Ltd.

New Esso Premises: The technical sales department of Esso Petroleum Co., Ltd., is now in new premises at Faggs Road, Peltham, Middx.

£63m. Road Schemes: West Riding County Council have proposed to the Ministry of Transport road schemes costing £63m., to be carried out during the next five years.

Valvoline at Birkenhead: The Valvoline Gi Co., Ltd., have moved into new premise which incorporate offices, stores, a blending plant and a laboratory, at Dock Road, Birkenhead.

Lucas Piant: Joseph Lucas, Ltd., are to build a £500,000 factory at Burnley, Lanca. Site clearance begins next month and the plant should be working next summer. Lucas already have four factories in the town.

Chocolate Tanker: The Atkinson articulated liquid-chocolate tanker illustrated in the July 15 issue is operated by Tyburn Road Tank Services, Ltd., High Wycombe, under contract to Wm. Stewart and Arnold, Ltd.

£50,000 By-pass: A new by-pass at Lemington, Northumberland, which cost £50,000, has been completed. It is 900 yards long and provides an alternative route to one which involves crossing two dangerous bridges,

Car Mart Automatie: A telephone answering device has been installed by The Car Mart, Ltd., at their branch at Welsh Harp, Edgware Road, London, N.W.9. It will facilitate a 24-hour service for the order of B.M.C. spare parts.

£40,000 Modernization: South Shields Corporation have completed a £40,000 modernization scheme at their transport depot. Originally built to handle trams, it has been adapted to deal with motorbuses and trolleybuses. A washing machine costing £10,000, which will wash a vehicle in two minutes, has been installed.

#### FACTORY TRUCK NEED NOT BE FENCED

A FACTORY truck is not a machine of the type requiring to be fenced under the Factories Act, 1937. This was affirmed in the Court of Appeal on Monday.

Sydney Frank Cherry appealed against a judgment of Mr. Justice Gorman in favour of International Alloys, Ltd., Aylesbury. The appellant, a motor mechanic, had injured his hand against the fan of a Lister factory truck, and claimed damages on the ground that the truck was "machinery" to which the Act applied.

Mr. Justice Gorman had upheld the company's plea that the Act did not affect the truck in the manner suggested, and the three Lords Justice concurred with

his judgment.

Lord Justice Sellers said that the truck was not machinery to which Section 14 of the Act was intended to apply, but a vehicle.

Lord Justice Devlin added that the object of the Act was not to make safety provisions for vehicles, being things which might travel inside or outside a factory. but for machinery inside the factory.

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### BREAK-THROUGH

Leylands drive in to the U.S. market-and add another chapter to the Leyland story

Selling refrigerators to Eskimos is child's play compared with selling British trucks to Americans on their home ground.

But Leylands have done it. Today, Leyland Group vehicles-7-ton Albion Chieftains—are operating alongside 1,000 U.S.-built trucks in the fleet of Yale Express System Inc.—one of America's 'top-ten' hauliers. And orders for others are beginning to roll in.

What a wonderful proof of Leyland quality.

For make no mistake, what the Americans are sold on is quality ... the quality which, in their own words "combines excellent workmanship with incredible econ-omy." And here's the proof of that economy:

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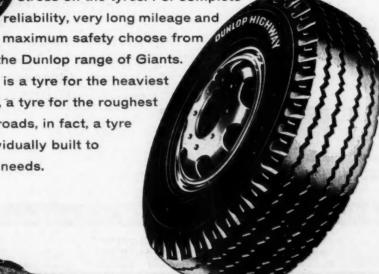
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#### Mr. Quin Apprehensive Over Extra Transport Facilities for Argyll

A DDITIONAL facilities for transport in the Argyll area were refused by Mr. W. F. Quin, Scottish Licensing Authority, in Glasgow last week, when Mr. Archibald Ferguson, Ardrishaig, sought three vehicles of 20 tons and one semi-trailer of 3 tons on A licence.

Mr. J. Law, for the applicant, said that a normal user of "timber for D. and H. Ferguson, Ltd., Kirkcaldy, to England and Scotland, feeding stuffs and fertilizers in Argyll, for MacFarlane Shearer and Co., Ltd., Greenock, and road and building materials for Tarmac, Ltd., Wolverhampton," was sought. Other smaller users were involved but they were eliminated during the course of the hearing.

#### Licence from Partnership

Mr. Ferguson said that he had taken over the A licence of a former partnership with his uncle, Mr. Grinlaw, who was a representative in the area for MacFarlane Shearer and Co., Ltd. Mr. Grinlaw continued to operate his B licence as A. R. Grinlaw. Business had expanded steadily and he had an opportunity to deliver timber from Argyll, for D. and H. Ferguson, Ltd., to Kirkcaldy, and to collieries in the North and Midlands of England.

The timber work had been done on the A licence acquired from a Glasgow business which was in the process of take-over by Archibald Ferguson. The intention of the application was to

regularize this position.

Mr. Quin suggested that the applicant was too ambitious and that the vehicles sought represented capital cost of £15,000. Mr. Ferguson replied that the available tonnage, which was all new business, justified the cost. There were between 700-800 tons of timber available, awaiting transport.

For various objectors, Mr. R. Mackenzie asked if the Tarmac business was new. He was told that Tarmac, who fomerly did the work on C licence, did not wish to continue as it was not economic. When Mr. Ferguson said that he got the work when he asked about delivery of pipes from Glasgow to Argyll, as part of the Tarmac contract work, Mr. Quin said that it looked as though the applicant had broken the terms of his normal user.

#### Additional Tonnage

In support of the application for eightwheelers, Mr. Munro, sawmill manager for D. and H. Ferguson, said that a second sawmill was going into use, with capacity for an additional 3,000 tons per The traffic was equally divided between round timber to the home mill, in Kirkcaldy, and prepared timber to English collieries. They did not want to increase their own C-licensed fleet and had been refused facilities by B.R.S. when they asked in February.

In reply to Mr. Brown, for British Road Services, who objected, he said that

quoted elsewhere. Tower Hill had worked for them before Ferguson took over, but as sub-contractors had been used they had not always been able to give vehicles as required.

Mr. A. R. Grinlaw gave evidence of increased agricultural traffic and admitted that he had a natural preference for

service by his nephew.

Mr. Brown produced evidence to show that the only request for vehicles had coincided with the February rush of fertilizer business. Normally Argyll had more traffic in than out. There was suitable capacity available, for timber, grain and fertilizer. There was not enough traffic in the area to justify any grant, he claimed.

Refusing the application, Mr. Quin said that the position in Argyll was known to them all. He was apprehensive about such a large volume of new capacity available in the area. He also observed that the applicant had admitted carrying outside his normal user. Mr. Quin was satisfied that B.R.S. had the vehicles to carry the goods involved. The background to the case was not so much the carrying of timber as the desire for additional facilities which would allow that timber to be carried at low rates.

#### SECURITY PLAN REJECTED

THE "increasing" disappearance of goods from heavy vehicles parked at night in Hucknall, near Nottingham, prompted the town's police to draw up plans for a group of brightly lit parking spaces which would be continuously supervised. But their suggestions have been turned down by Hucknall Urban District Council, who claim that such raids on vehicles do not warrant the expense involved. They have, however, urged lorry drivers to park overnight in the central Market Place which is well

#### Call for Start on New Motorway

INDUSTRIES in Sheffield and the West Riding of Yorkshire which use road transport urgently need facilities for the fast carriage of goods. With this in mind strong representations have been made to the Minister of Transport by West Riding County Council and other local authorities for an early start on the proposed new Sheffield-Leeds motorway, according to Ald. A. Dwyer, chairman of the West Riding Highways Committee.

We are doing all we possibly can to make the Minister realize how important it is to this area that he should bring the project into his immediate road programme," he said last week.

He was speaking immediately after the county council's meeting, when he had successfully demanded £63,000,000 for roads expenditure—excluding by-passes at Doncaster and Wetherby and the Sheffield-Leeds motorway. It was useless for motorways to be built, he maintained, if they did not link highly industrial

#### TWO MORE TIPPERS FOR TARMACADAM

WO tippers to carry tarmacadam and sand and gravel products within 100 miles were added to the A licence of Mr. G. E. S. Tanner, Wootton-under-Edge, by Mr. S. W. Nelson, Western Licensing Authority, last week.

Mr. Tanner applied for three vehicles. but as the supporting evidence for the third was only in the form of letters, he was told that this would be refused.

Mr. B. Palfrey, sales manager of Cromhall Quarries, said that the existing supply of vehicles was "hopeless." About 25 hauliers were being employed and big new contracts were in the offing.

"I have been granting additional vehicles to meet the quarrying industry requirements. Has this not made a difference to you?" asked Mr. Nelson.

"No, sir. And I should like to point out that slack periods are now a thing of the past," replied Mr. Palfrey.

#### Grant Despite Strong Opposition

DESPITE strong opposition from the British Transport Commission, Mr. S. H. Buckley, 2 Peveril Road, Eckington, was granted an A licence for a vehicle of 51 tons, at Sheffield last week. unit, to re place a vehicle of 4 tons 12 cwt., had been operating on temporary substitution since March.

The difference in weight was accounted for by a heavier engine and heavier tipping gear. The new vehicle had been earning more than its predecessor, carrying coal and solid fuel, road and building materials, steel, pig iron and scrap metals to Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Lincolnshire and the Midlands. The unit of 4 tons 12 cwt. had been previously specified on special A licence.
For the B.T.C., Mr. G. P. Crowe

pointed out that the legal carrying capacity of the new vehicle would be 14 tons, whereas the capacity of the old one was only 9 tons. This was an increase of 60 per cent.

Mr. G. H. Begg, transport manager of a Sheffield clearing house, said that they employed the applicant and all his vehicles were fully utilized. Mr. Buckley, a representative of British Railways, gave details of their facilities and pointed out that there was no difficulty in transporting pig iron to Yorkshire, the Midlands and Lancashire by rail. This traffic was very competitive. Mr. Crowe stated that there must be some concrete evidence of need for the additional capacity.

Granting the application, Mr. J. H. E. Randolph, Yorkshire Deputy Licensing Authority, said that he attached importance to the earning figures of the vehicle and the evidence given by Mr. Begg.

#### LABOUR PRESSURE FOR CONCESSIONS

LEGISLATION to enable local authorities to charge concession fares on motorbuses is to be urged by the Newcastle upon Tyne delegate at the Labour Party's annual conference at Scarborough.

In Newcastle, the old and blind can travel cheaply on trolleybuses but not motorbuses, although several attempts to extend the facility to motorbuses have been made.

#### **B.E.T.** Made Most of Summer

"THE summer was extremely good and our companies made the most of it," declared Mr. H. C. Drayton, chairman of British Electric Traction Co., Ltd., when he spoke of bus companies operated in the United Kingdom, during his annual report, last week.

The number of passengers carried by the associated companies during 1959 was nearly equal to the 1958 figure-"a remarkable achievement bearing in mind the number of new private cars which come on to the road every day," he

Referring to the loss of wage stability which occurred during May, Mr. Drayton that, with revealed consequential increases, the latest awards would cost B.E.T. companies an estimated £3m. in a full year.

Expressing the personal opinion that the basic cost of oil fuel was too high, he questioned whether this situation could continue indefinitely as new sources of oil were being found and awaited marketing. It is our duty to pursue all sources of supply so that we may buy at the cheapest possible price," he declared.

#### NO DAMAGES FOR INJURED CONDUCTRESS

BUS conductress who injured her A BUS conductiess who injured a patch knee when she slipped on a patch of oil at a bus garage lost her claim for personal injuries against the Western Welsh Omnibus Co., Ltd., at Cardiff County Court, last week.

Judge Wilfred Clothier, Q.C., told Mrs. Margaret Frost, aged 35, of Nicholas Street, Pontypool, who made the claim. " Although my sympathies go out to you, a garage is a place where people should tread with a certain degree of wariness."

Mrs. Frost told the judge that as she stepped off a bus in the depot her feet slipped from under her and she struck her knee on the side of another bus. She had slipped on a large pool of oil and had stayed away from work for nine weeks.

After being told that the floor was washed once every day and that a con-tinuous watch was kept for spots of oil, the judge said: "I think the company look after their garage with reasonable care. To clean it once a day is, to my mind, enough." He gave judgment with costs to the company. **c8** 

### "Lowest Fares Would Rise Most

#### Company and Public Interest Coincide, Says Mr. Thom: £150,000 Surplus Wanted

COMPLAINTS by local authorities that proposed increases in fares would be steepest in the lower range were overruled by Mr. H. J. Thom, chairman, South Eastern Traffic Commissioners, when they considered an application from Hants and Dorset Motor Services, Ltd., at Bournemouth last week. The company was one of numerous undertakings granted fares revisions during the week. Grants included those to Red and White Services, Ltd.; Rhondda Transport Co., Ltd.; United Welsh Services, Ltd.; Ribble Motor Services, Ltd.; Eastern National Omnibus Co., Ltd. and Southern Vectis Omnibus Co., Ltd.

In answer to the complaints at at their proposed scales for rural services. Bournemouth, Mr. Thom said, "It has The Commissioners also reserved been said that the company is serving its own interests, but I would suggest that the company's interest coincides exactly with the public interest."

By placing the larger increases on the lower range the company would ensure that the extra revenue required would be forthcoming. would allow an efficient service to the public to be maintained, he added.

Mr. Herbert Harding, secretary and accountant of the company, said that the decline in passengers had been arrested last year. He agreed with Mr. Thom that this was unusual and added that it proved that the prices were right.

A surplus of at least £150,000 was required to operate an efficient public service, said Mr. Harding. The proposed increases would raise the net operating profit to an estimated £145,270, he said.

Full sanction was given to a general increase. Single fares, with some exceptions, are to be raised by ½d, on fares from 2½d.-4½d. An increase of 1d. is to be made on fares from 5d.-1s. and 2d. on those from 1s. 1d.-2s. A sum of 3d. is to be added to fares from 2s. 1d.-3s, 5d.

#### **Outright Grants**

Multiple applications by South Wales companies (The Commercial Motor, last week) resulted in outright grants being made to Red and White Services, Ltd., Rhondda Transport Co., Ltd., J. James and Sons, Ltd., and United Welsh Services, Ltd., by the South Wales Traffic Commissioners, at Pontypridd, last week.

At the conclusion of a three-day hearing the Commissioners made a grant in principle to the Western Welsh Omnibus Co., Ltd., but reserved decision to enable the company to "look again

#### FIRST PHASE ENDS

THE Yorkshire Traffic Commissioners completed their 31st hearing in connection with fares revisions in the present series, when they made a grant to West Riding Automobile Co., Ltd., at Leeds, on Tuesday. Maj. F. S. Eastwood, chairman, observed that the total amount of extra wage payments to be met by operators who had applied was £2,243,400. More applications are listed for August, he

The Commissioners also reserved decision on the application by the South Wales Transport Co., Ltd., until further information was made available to them. Mr. Geoffrey Hocking, who represented 42 local authorities, had questioned an amount of £6,000 which the company estimated would be required as additional wages for certain clerical and administrative staff.

Mr. F. A. Stockdale, who represented the six applicant companies, stated that increased costs as a result of the last wage award would involve South Wales in additional expenditure of £125,400. In the case of Rhondda this factor would cost the company £64,400.

The Commissioners advised the South Wales company to operate a half-fares scale for children as a concession to the objectors, and gave permission for the other grants to operate from Sunday.

Fares on about one quarter of the 10,335 individual fare stages on services operated in the Isle of Wight by the Southern Vectis Omnibus Co., Ltd., will be affected by revisions granted by the South Eastern Traffic Commissioners.

The increases, which will operate from early next month, will mean 2d. more in the summer and 1d. more in the winter on certain fares.

#### No Council Objections

Granting the application, Mr. Thom said that it was noteworthy that no local councils had offered objections.

Applications to increase fares were granted to the Eastern National Omnibus Co., Ltd., and Southend-on-Sea Transport Department, by the Eastern Traffic Commissioners, at Cambridge last week.

The revisions will add 1d. to all fares up to 6d., and 1d. on fares between 8d.-1s. Certain concessionary fares will also be affected.

Stockport Transport Department and their joint operators were granted fares revisions by the North Western Traffic Commissioners, at Stockport, last week. Single fares from 21d.-5d, are to rise by 1d., and 1d. will be added to fares of 6d. and over.

The last wage award would cost the undertaking an additional £50,000 for a full year, stated Mr. A. Blackmore, Town The present application was designed to produce an estimated additional £52,000 per year, he said. If the application were not successful an accumula of only reserve fi required delivered

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### Rise Most," Complain Authorities

estimated deficit of £64,000 would have accumulated by 1962. By then a balance of only £33,000 would remain in the reserve fund and some £50,000 would be required to pay for 10 new buses to be delivered in 1962.

Fare increases designed to yield an extra £320,000 a year were granted to Ribble Motor Services, Ltd., at a joint sitting of the North Western and Northern Traffic Commissioners, at Morecambe last week, Mr. F. Williamson, chairman, said that if they had refused the increases services would have been heavily pruned, and that would not have been in the public interest.

On country services fares of 44d. and above are to be raised by 1d. On return fares a 2d, increase will be made on the full range and adult contracts with be increased by 13s. per quarter. Children's contracts will rise by 6s. 6d. quarterly.

Fares on town services of 3<sup>1</sup>d. and above will be increased by 1d. Adult contract charges will rise by 6s. 6d. a quarter and those for children by a corresponding amount. Charges on express and limited stage services were also revised.

#### 127 Letters Circulated

Mr. H. Bottomley, general manager of Ribble, said that letters had been sent to 127 local authorities and private operators informing them of the application. This had prompted only four objectors. They were the Urban District Councils Dalton-in-Furness, Upholland and Withnell and Fleetwood Town Council.

For Ribble, Mr. F. D. Walker pointed out that Preston Corporation had not yet agreed to the proposals. He said that the application affected those services governed by the Ribble fares structure, and not those governed by local

At Leeds last week the Yorkshire Traffic Commissioners granted fares increases to York Pullman Bus Co., Ltd., and Leon Motor Services, Ltd., Finningley, Doncaster. York Pullman sought to increase fares on all stage facilities except a local service from York to the race-

Mr. H. Foxton, managing director, said that the application was to increase fares between 2d.-41d. by not more than \d.; those from 5d. to 1s. 8\d. by not more than Id. and those over 1s. 84d. by not more than 2d. The recent wage award would cost the company £2,882.

#### Additions of 1d.

Leon Motor Services sought to increase and revise fares on three stage services. All fares of 5d. and above are to be increased by 1d.

An increase in fares of approximately ld. in Is. is proposed by Moore Bros. (Kelvedon), Ltd., who operate in the Colchester and Chelmsford areas. No change in the minimum single fare of 2d. is proposed.

Bedwas Urban District Council last week decided to make application to the South Wales Traffic Commissioners for an increase in bus fares. It was proposed that monthly season tickets should be issued on the basis of a minimum single fare of 9d.

The Wallasey Passenger Transport Committee have recommended that bus fares should be increased by 4d. on charges under 5d. and by 1d. on fares over that amount. The town council was to consider the proposal vesterday.

#### Over Rural Routes

and "pirate" operation of small buses occupied a prominent part of the annual report of the Western Welsh Omnibus Co., Ltd., presented by Mr.

Committee would suggest a practical and effective solution to the difficulties now facing rural operation, but said that in his opinion the greatest single contribution would be the removal of the 200 per

Illustrating the burden of rural services, Mr. Wills explained that during the past year 55 per cerit. of Western Welsh routes, representing 37 per cent. of the total mileage, were run for revenue lower than the average cost of operation. Most of these routes were in rural areas.

Loss of revenue on a single paying route could lead to withdrawal of a rural service many miles away, said Mr. Wills. That was why operators not only had to watch the would-be "musclers-in," but also the out-and-out pirates. They used small buses which were not licensed as public service vehicles, or, if they were,

authority and independent operators.

#### VISITORS to the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales will be given tickets printed in Welsh when they travel on the special buses provided

TICKETS PRINTED IN WELSH FOR VISITORS

by Cardiff Transport Department between General and Queen Street stations and the Eisteddfod.

Mr. J. F. Siddall, general manager of the department, said: "It is the first time in the history of Cardiff Transport Department that tickets printed in Welsh will be issued." These tickets would be available only on the special services which were being provided to meet the many thousands expected to travel to Cardiff by train, he added.

#### Municipal Opportunities

Hultemprice Rural District Council require a fuse collector.

Hemel Hempstead Rural District Council require

Coseley Corporation require a Thames-Eagle ompressmore refuse collector.

Newcastle upon Tyne City Council wish to purase five vans and four tippers.

Southwark Borough Council are recommended to quire two S.D. refuse collectors.

Hampstead Works Committee recommend that a lennis refuse collector be purchased.

Sheffield City Council are advised to acquire a Thames 4-tonner from Brook Shaw, Ltd. Manchester Transport Committee are to buy six Commer 25-30-ewt, chassis from Rootes, Ltd.

Battersea Borough Council are to buy a Bedford wer wagon from Keith and Boyle (London), Ltd. Middlesbrough Corporation are to buy three edford-Lomas ambulances from Sherwood Bros.

Burton-on-Trent Borough Council are advised to by a Bedford-Lacre sweeper from R. W. Kenny,

Wanstend and Woodford Borough Council are recommended to purchase a 2-21-tonner from Ray Powell, Ltd.

Powell, Ltd.

Mountain Ash Urban District Council require a
Commer Superpoise 3-4-tonner and a Karrier
Gamecock refuse collector.

Acton Borough Council are to buy a number of
refuse collectors from the Commercial Motor
Garage and Repair Co., Ltd.

Garage and Repair Co., Ltd.

Peterborough City Council are advised to obtain
a Thames lorry from Peterborough Motors, Ltd.,
also two Dennis refuse collectors.

Stanley Urban District Council have ordered two
Karrier refuse collectors, two Karrier lorries and a
Commer van from Minories Garages, ktd.

Southport Corporation are advised to purchase a
Bedford 5-ton tipper and a Bedford-Simon
hydraulic platform from the Southport Engineering
Co., Ltd.

Co. Ltd.

Paddington Borough Council are recommended to by a barrier-loading refuse collector from Glover, lebb and Liversidge, Ltd., also two S.D. refuse

Portsmouth City Council are recommended to buy six refuse collectors from Wadham Bros., Ltd., and three refuse collectors from J. H. Sparshatt and Sons, Ltd.

Walsall Transport Committee seek to obtain 15 Dennis Loline chassis with M.C.W. bodywork. The fire services committee wish to borrow £11,000 to buy a new appliance.

fire services committee wish to borrow £11,000 to buy a new appliance.

Laton Housing Committee wish to buy a Thames 7-cwt, van. The cleansing committee seek to purchase a Karrier Bantam refuse collector and three Gamecock refuse collectors.

Birmingham City Council are to buy a number of refuse collectors from Shelvoke and Drewry, Ltd., Rootes, Ltd., Giover, Webb and Liversidge, Ltd., and the Easte Engineering Co., Ltd.

Northampton Watch Committee seek tenders for the supply of an ambulance. The cleansing committee are considering the purchase of two Dennis refuse collectors, two Karrier Bantam tippers and a Morris 5-cwt, van.

Torquay Health Committee wish to buy a R.M.C.-Eagle Compressmore refuse collector, The waterworks committee propose to buy an Austin 10-cwt, van from A. C. Bujoin and Son, Ltd. The beaches committee seek to obtain two Morris 30-cwt, vans from Phil Read, Ltd.

#### Mr. Wills' Concern

UNREMUNERATIVE rural services John Spencer Wills, chairman, last week.

He expressed the hope that the Jack cent. tax on oil fuel.

were used illegally to carry fare-paying passengers.

Referring to revised fares, introduced in December, 1959, Mr. Wills explained that the grant had been implemented only to an extent of 70 per cent. The new scales operated only on those routes exclusive to Western Welsh and where co-operators were able to introduce similar fares.

It was not until February 28 this year that revised fares came into operation on the remaining routes. Inter-availability arrangements with other operators were continued, with a supplement being charged on their return tickets when used for return journeys on Western Welsh.

Despite the benefit from higher fares and the fine summer of 1959, receipts from stage and express services increased by only £40,414, while those from excursions, tours and contracts rose by £22,887. The number of passenger journeys during the year, at 81m., was 15 per cent. down on the peak year of 1955/56, although this figure showed an increase of 1,300,000 over that for the previous year.





(Above, left) F. Battle (Express Dairy Co. (London), Ltd.), driving a Morris in Class A, gained the day's honours with 50½ penalty points. (Above, right) H. Baggaley (Crow Carrying Co., Ltd.), in a Scammell, won Class G. (Left) R. Underhill (Adams Bros. (Kingston), Ltd., Austin) lost 79 points to win Class H.

### Big Losses in London's First Competition

RESULTS

penalties characterized London's first eliminating round of the Lorry Driver of the Year Competition last Sunday. Losses of marks might have been even greater if all the tests had been conducted strictly in accordance with the national rules.

A dreary day was enlivened by the outstanding success of the Express Dairy Co. (London), Ltd. Of the nine drivers entered by them, five were class champions (A, B, D, E(2) and F(1)) and the sixth was third in class B. The Crow Carrying Co., Ltd., had 10 entries and secured a win in class G, and gained the trophy for the best-maintained diesel engine-a foregone conclusion.

The competition was sponsored by the Stepney safety organization, but the heavy burden of administration fell on the unfortunate Mr. R. F. Waite, of the Road Haulage Association. The manœuvrability tests were held in Victoria Park on a site consisting of rough, loose soil and coarse grass. It was impossible to mark out tests accurately on this surface. Moreover, London County Council prohibited the use of barriers and public-address equipment to control the spectators, with the result that men, women, children and dogs wandered all over the course throughout the day.

There was also a shortage of marshals and a lack of adequate equipment. Most of it appeared to have been brought on chance by the Union Cartage Co., Ltd.. and some had been made by Mr. Waite. Some drivers complained that their employers had not given them the test instructions.

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All the drivers did not take the Highway Code test together at the start of the proceedings, consequently it was impossible to prevent collusion. Some of the vehicles were still leaving on the observed road section at 6 p.m., although it was supposed to have been completed before the manœuvring tests started.

As the results were not exhibited. drivers did not know how they had fared, and it was impossible to appraise the general level of performance in the Highway Code test, on the road or in the manœuvring exercises.

Unfortunately, the runners-up in Class G. entered by the Union Cartage Co., Ltd., were ineligible to compete, because they were driving tractors with independent trailers, which are not admitted to the competition.

The maintenance examination was well organized by Mr. R. E. G. Brown and Mr. J. R. Lemmer. They had the advantage of excellent facilities at the Waterden Road depot of British Road Services. Three teams of four mechanics each were supplied by Watneys, Express Dairy and B.R.S. Maintenance reached an acceptable standard, but something of a shock was provided by a vehicle which, until it was discovered to have two broken springs, appeared to be a winner. Class A—Up to 15 ft.: 1.—F. Battle (Express Dairy Co. (London), Ltd., Morris), 504 penalty points, 2.—C. Staines (H. Garon, Ltd., Austin), 1231 (Staines)

points. 2.—C. Staines (H. Garon, Ltd., Austin), 1734 (two runners). Class B.—15-19 ft.: 1.—R. Harrington (Express Dairy Co. (London), Ltd., Morris), 55. 2.—R. Curtis (H. Garon, Ltd., Austin), 1191, 3.—E. Surridge (Errigess Dairy Co. (London), Ltd., Morris), 1411.

C-19-22 ft.: 1,-S. Cattermole (S.P.D. Class C-19-22 Rt.: 1,—S. Cattermole (S.P.D. Ltd., Thames), 116. 2.—A. Hill (Pease Transport, Ltd., Bedford), 147½. 3.—T. H. Holmes G. Thompson and Son (Minories), Ltd., Thames), 148½. Class D-22-25 Rt.: 1,—J. D. Hughes (Express Dairy Co. (London), Ltd., Bedford), 75½. 2.—J. J. Leahy (Power Petroleum Co., Ltd., Leyland), 3.—W. C. Bullen (Union Cartage Co., Ltd., Thames).

Thames), 99.

Class E(1)—Over 25 ft., two axies: 1.—R. J.
Leggott (Evan Cook's Depositories. Ltd., Commet),
94. 2.—D. Mackie (Smedley's, Ltd., Leyland), 198 (two runners)

(two runners).

Class E(2)—Over 25 ft., more than two axis:

1.—R. Gulwell (Express Dairy Co, (London), Ltd.,

A.E.C.), 66. 2.—R. J. Hilison (Union Cartage
Co., Ltd., Thames), 79. 3.—J. Webb (Pease
Transport, Ltd., A.E.C.), 85.

Class F(1)—Articulated, tractor under 3 tons,

semi-trailer under 22 ft.; 1.—D. Evans (Express
Dairy Co, (London), Ltd., Bedford), 59. 2.—

Dean (B.R.S. (Parcels), Ltd., Seddon), 231.

Class F(2)—Articulated, tractor under 3 tons,

semi-trailer 22-27 ft.; 1.—J. R. Morgan (Thomas
Alien, Ltd., Bedford), 67. 2.—F. Corbell (Evan

Alien, Ltd., Bedford), 67. 2.—F. Corbell (Evan

Cook's Depositories, Ltd., Bedford), 123. 3.—

T. Warren (Thomas Allen, Ltd., Dennia), 125.

Class G.—Articulated, tractor over 3 tons, semi-

Class G—Articulated, tractor over 3 tons, semi-trailer up to 27 ft.: 1.—H. Baggaley (Crow Carry-ing Co., Ltd., Scammell), 143½. (Runners-up

Class H—Articolated, tractor, any weight, semi-trailer more than 27 ft.; I.—R. Underhill (Adam Bros. (Kingston), Ltd., Austin), 79. 2.—W. Teasdale (Adams Bros. (Kingston), Ltd., Austin), 37 (two runners).

Best-maintained C-licence vehicle: W. G. Edwards

Best-maintained Co., Ltd., Bestoret vestice: W. G. Easternalitationed A or B-Reene vehicle: G. Larkin icorge Bristow, Ltd., Austin).

Best-maintained dieset engine: A. Thompson frow Carrying Co., Ltd., Scanmell).

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Evans (Express d), 59, 2,—I. n), 231. umder 3 tons, organ (Thomas d), 123, 3,— ennis), 125. r 3 tons, semi-r (Crow Carry-(Runners-up

weight, semi-derhill (Adams 9. 2.—W. Ltd., Austin), W. G. Edwards

dele: G. Larkin A. Thompson

(Crow n Class G.



R. Braddon (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard) is seen reversing his Bedford tanker into the simulated loading bay on his way to winning Class D and putting up the best perform-ance of the day. Waiting to start the test is A. Mitchell, of Tate and Lyle, Ltd., who came second in the class in his Bedford normal-control van.

#### Navy Win in Home Port

USTLY, the Navy, or at least its close associates, triumphed at the Plymouth eliminating round of the Lorry Driver of the Year Competition last Sunday. Driving a Bedford tanker, R. Braddon (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard) won Class D from an entry of 22 with a score of 27 points deducted.

This was the best performance of the day, although no prize was given for the overall winner. Braddon was particularly impressive on the kerbside parking test which took toll from all but a handful of the competitors.

His namesake, A. Braddon, also from the N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard, at the wheel of a Bedford "artic" had an unchallenged win as the only entry in Class H. His score was inflated by a slow performance on the width-judging test for which he lost 100 points.

Tate and Lyle, Ltd., carried off the premier awards in two classes. R. Thorne (A.E.C.) of this concern incurred penalties on all tests but won Class G with a score of 116, whilst M. Thorne, driving a Bedford, was unopposed in Class F (2).

Had there been a concours d'elegance at Plymouth, the three very smart Bedford CA vans entered by Messrs, Turnbull's Garages would have stood a good chance of gaining the award. As it was, A. Couch driving one of them lost no marks on the 7.5-mile road test and Highway Code questionnaire.

His total score of 35 made him the winner of Class A from F. G. Taylor (G.P.O., Morris) and S. Semmens (Bed-Turnbull's team, of which the ford). other drivers were L. Whitmore and H. Turnbull, took the team award with an aggregate score of 185 to repeat their success of last year.

Another well-turned-out team was that of Messrs, R. A. Gibbs, whose vehicles took first and third place in Class E (1). driven by J. Lumley (Leyland) and R. Luscombe (A.E.C.) respectively.

On kerbside parking, W. R. G. Johns (Messrs. Robert Daniel, Commer) lost no points. His total of 38 marks gave him a comfortable win in Class B.

Although he lost 28 marks on the road section, W. R. G. Johns (Messrs. Robert Daniel) in a Commer 30-cwt. recovered the lost ground with faultless answers on the Highway Code and the loss of only 10 points in the manœuvring tests to give him first prize in Class B.

Couch was one of the few competitors who emerged from the road test with a clean sheet. Almost every hazard was included in the excellently planned circuit, whilst each observer was provided with an explicit list of points to be checked and how faults were to be marked. Thus, judging was scrupulously fair and the marking sheets could be inspected by drivers who wished to see where they had failed.

One begins to wonder why it is that Service drivers are particularly hard hit by the time limitation for the manœuvring tests introduced this year. Of the 14 Army and Marine entries in Class I. only three managed to complete all the tests within the time specified. These were S/Sgt. F. Tucker (506 Coy. R.A.S.C. [T.A.], Commer) who won the class, and Dvr. J. Pope and L/Cpl. K. Crumpton of the same unit in similar vehicles who were second and third. Tucker was the class winner in 1958.

An interesting diversion while waiting for the announcement of the results was demonstration by Plymouth Fire Service.

#### RESULTS

RESULTS

Class A—Up to 15 ft.: 1.—A. Couch (Mesars. Turnbull's Garage, Bedford), 35 penalty points. 2.—F. G. Taylor (G.P.O., Morris), 39, 3.—S. Semmens (Mesars. S. Semmens, Bedford), 44.

Class B—15-19 ft.: 1.—W. R. G. Johns (Mesars. Robert Daniel, Commer), 38, 2.—W. C. Venton (Harding and Son, Ltd., Morris), 102, 3.—J. G. Perkins (City Engineer, Plymouth, Karrier), 175.

Class C—19-22 ft.: 1.—H. H. J. Gay (Civil Defence, Plymouth, Thames), 62, 2.—G. Buzza (Thomas Provisions, Thames), 64, 3.—W. Fice (City Engineer, Plymouth, S.D.), 71.

Class C—9-22 ft.: 1.—R. Braddon (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard, Bedford), 37, 2.—A. Mitchell (Tate and Lyle, Ltd., Bedford), 33, 3.—R. Hawkins (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard, Bedford), 37, 2.—A. Mitchell (Tate and Lyle, Ltd., Bedford), 38, 3.—R. Hawkins (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard, Thames), 34.

Class E(1)—Over 25 ft., two axies: 1.—J. Lumley (Messrs, R. A. Gibbs, Leyland), 48, 2.—R. Brookshaw (Poppleston and Son, Ltd., Austin), 69, 3.—R. Luscombe (Messrs, R. A. Gibbs, A.E.C.), 85.

Class E(2)—Over 25 ft., more than two axless 1.—G. C. Berry (Shell-Mex and B.P., Lid., A.E.C.), 68. 2.—C. Crocker (N.S. Department, H.M. Dock-yard, A.E.C.), 83. 3.—H. Rosevear (Western Haulage, Lid., A.E.C.), 158.

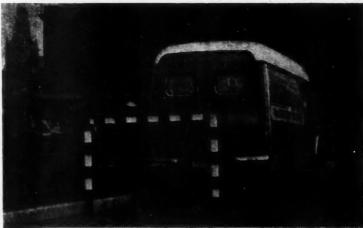
Haulage, Ltd., A.E.C.), 158.

Class F(2)—Articulated, tractor under 3 tous, semi-trailer 22-7 ft.: 1.—M. Thorne (Tate and Lyle, Ltd., Bedford), (47, Sole eatry.)

Class G-Articulated, tractor over 3 tous, semi-trailer up to 27 ft.: 1.—R. Thorne (Tate and Lyle, Ltd., A.E.C.), 116. 2.—L. I. Bennett (Shell-Mex and B.P., Ltd., A.E.C.), 148. 3.—R. Botting (Western Express, A.E.C.), 205.

Class H—Articulated, tractor any weight, semi-trailer over 27 ft.: 1.—A. Braddon (N.S. Department, H.M. Dockyard, Bedford), 240. (Sole entry.)

Class I—Standard right military load carriers, 19-22 ft.: 1.—S.Sat. F. Tucket (506 Cov. R.A.S.C. | T.A.I. Commert), 93. 2.—Dvr. 1. Pope (Sole Cov. R.A.S.C. | T.A.I. Commert), 95. 3.—L'Cpl. K. Crumpton (506 Cov. R.A.S.C. | T.A.I. Commert), 203.





### **Brewers Sweep the Board**

T the first eliminating round of the Lorry Driver of the Year Com-A petition to be held at Newcastle upon Tyne, last Sunday, Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., swept the board. From 18 entries out of a total of 84 they incurred the three smallest penalty totals

of the day, won Classes C and D and gained three second and two third places. G. Courtney (Foden), after an excellent all-round performance in Class D during which he dropped only 40 penalty points, was well clear of his nearest rival, colleague W. D. Hand (Commer) with 48

(Above) Third in Class E (1), H. Patterson (Thos. Bell and Son, Ltd., A.E.C.), is seen here having completed the width-judging test. (Below) W. Robinson (Beechams Foods, Ltd.), the winner of Class E (2), driving up to take part in the first test in his Atkinson, followed by E. Martin (National Benzole Co., Ltd., Albion).



G. Courtney won the day's honours at Newcastle upon Tyne with the loss of only 40 points. He drove a Foden, and his colleagues from Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., also put up a good display.

points, also in Class D. same class supplied the third best performer of the day in K. Bourne (Commer), 53 points. also of Newcastle Breweries.

There was a disappointingly small turnout of local hauliers. but this was partly because of the local road safety committee's decision to keep the entries down to reasonable proportions for their first venture in the competition. Phillip's

Transport Co., Ltd., however, represented by T. Tracey (Thames), was a worthy winner of Class E(1) with 65 penalty points, while vehicles of J. W. Capstaff (Transport), Ltd., and British Road Services were also prominent.

One of the best-turned-out entries was an Atkinson driven by W. Robinson (Beechams Foods, Ltd.), who won a close contest for Class E(2), handling the vehicle with excellent judgment in the manœuvring tests.

Although measuring-up was delayed by a heavy downpour, competitors were away to a good start and had completed 18-mile circular road route by 10.45 a.m.

There were no team or maintenance awards, but the winner was presented with a silver cup and the class winners were awarded smaller replicas. The standard was high in all tests except the Highway Code in which a number of competitors were disappointing. There were no competitors in Class F(2).

RESULTS

RESULTS

Class A—Up to 15 ft.: 1.—W. Nixon (Thos. Bell and Son, Ltd... Bedford), 62 penalty points. 2.—I. Bell (Newcaste Chronicle and Journal, Ltd., Commer), 83.

Class B—15-19 ft.: 1.—A. Greaves (W.H.S. Transport, Ltd., Bedford), 62. 2.—P. Varah (City Engineer. Newcaste. Bedford), 70. 3.—D. Dunighan (W.H.S. Transport, Ltd., Bedford), 70. 3.—D. Dunighan (W.H.S. Transport, Ltd., Bedford), 73.

Class C—19-22 ft.: 1.—C. Nesbitt (Newcaste Breweries, Ltd., Albion), 73. 2.—W. Harrison (National Coal Board, E.R.F.), 77. 3.—W. McNaughton (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Albion), 92.

Class D-22-25 ft.: 1.—G. Courtney (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Foden), 40. 2.—W. D. Hand (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Commer), 48. 3.— K. Bourne (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Commer).

R. Bourne (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Commer).

3. Class E (4)—Over 25 ft., two axtest 1.—T. Trace (Phillip's Transport Co., Ltd., Thames), 65. 2.—B. Trotter (Newcastle Breweries, Ltd., Leyland), 67. 3.—H. Patterson (Thos. Bell and Son. Ltd., A.E.C.), 73.—Class E (2)—Over 28 ft., more than two axtest and the commercial control of the control of

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load carriers. I.Q. 125 Trans-Bedford), 256. WHAT a way to run a railway! That was my first reaction to the "Report from the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries" (British Railways), published last week. Perhaps I am being a trifle harsh, but the Government seem to me to emerge from the inquiry with little more credit than a punter who has put the family savings on a three-legged horse.

It is a sad tale. It tells of prodigal expenditure of taxpayers' money based on false premises, and of inadequate Government supervision of public funds. The Transport Tribunal have hobbled the British Transport Commission and, adding insult to injury, Government interference with the Commission's proposals to raise fares and charges cost between £15m. and £23½m. The committee believe the Government should compensate the B.T.C. to this extent.

The committee also paint a picture of over-optimism by the Commission about the fruits of a modernization scheme which has now lost its glitter—enthusiasm engendered by

inadequate statistical information. There have been disagreements between the Ministry of Transport and the Commission on the basis of vital calculations, and an obvious lack of drive by railway management. Never have the blind more successfully led the blind. calculations about rattways, and in any calculation about the true cost of a particular railway service, be it freight or passenger," the report comments.

"The argument that railways should be relieved of the track costs is based upon the belief that the burden of them is unfair when viewed in the context of the railways competition with road users. But in fact the road user pays each year in taxes for the use of his vehicle and its fuel considerably more than the annual cost of road maintenance, signalling and construction."

The committee do not believe that there is a case on the ground of fair competition to relieve the railways of track costs

Road transport operators may find satisfaction in the knowledge that the Ministry of Transport are on their side in this argument. The Commission argued that they were having to pay between 6s. 6d. and 7s. on track cost for every 2s. 6d. that the haulier and bus operator paid in fuel

duty. A member of the Commission had calculated that whereas the railways paid 0.7d, per passengermile and 0.5d, per ton-mile in track cost, the coach operator paid about 0.2d, per passenger-mile and the haulier about 0.3d, per ton-mile in tax.

The Ministry deny that the haulier is paying insufficiently. Their attitude is that this kind of difference in operating expense is "merely a manifestation of the difference that exists between the two forms of transport."

I am surprised that the select committee should have fallen for the Commission's old and transparent argument that long-distance coach operators are able to charge lower fares than the railways because "coach services are limited by licence in their volume and scope." The committee do not, however, mention that objections by the railways have been substantially responsible for the restriction of coach services. The statement that long-distance operators "do not have to provide services at other than the most popular times," also begs the truth.

### A Blind Bet on a Three-legged Nag

By A. E. Sherlock-Mesher

Despite the discouraging evidence, the committee have no doubt that a large-scale British railway system can be profitable. Its size and shape must, they say, be such as can enable the Commission to carry out their statutory task of balancing their accounts, taking one year with another. "But," they add, "if the Commission are to know which of their services are justifiable on grounds of direct financial return, they must first have some form of accounts by which the profitability of regions and services can be judged." It appears that the railways still have much to learn from road transport about effective management.

Direct profitability is, however, not the only consideration. "Because of the cost of the roads and of the congestion on them, the national interest may require railway services which do not in fact pay directly for themselves, but which may cost the nation less than the alternatives."

Social need may be a third consideration. If Parliament specifies that certain unremunerative services must be undertaken, the cost, says the report, should fall on public funds and be paid in advance. Subsidies of this kind should be provided openly for specific purposes, and not disguised either in public accounts or the Commission's accounts.

#### Tribunal Cut Commission's Revenue

The Transport Tribunal's decisions and the time taken to reach them are stated to have cut down severely the Commission's earnings. The committee believe that in all fields where the railways are meeting effective competition, there is no need for the Tribunal. If the Tribunal are to be kept in being, the criteria governing their decisions should be clearly laid down. Moreover, they should in future publish their full reasons for each decision on fares and charges.

There is little reference in the report to road transport, but the committee finally explode a 40-year-old argument about costs of rail tracks and roads. They say that rail tracks create the conditions of speed, density of traffic and safety which form the main advantages of railway travel.

"Their costs, therefore, should be paid for by the railway user, and must be taken into account in any economic

#### Unreliable Evidence

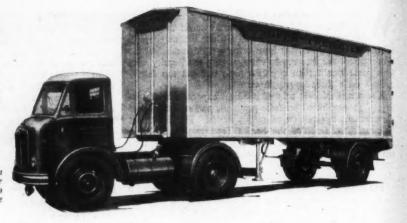
The committee try to draw a comparison between road and rail goods rates, although they admit the unreliability of the figures. According to the Commission, the following are the distances for which, on average, different types of carrier will haul a ton of freight for £1:—British Road Services, 37 miles; other public road transport, 33 miles; private transport, 11 miles; and British Railways, 60 miles.

But the committee hasten to add: "These figures, so far as road transport is concerned, are acknowledged to be very imprecise. Furthermore, the fact that the railways carry so much heavy coal and mineral traffic makes a straight comparison between their average rates and those of road hauliers somewhat questionable."

Perhaps, however, the comparison is no more questionable than some of the calculations made by the Commission in connection with the modernization scheme and blindly accepted by the Government.

The committee "are astonished at the way in which the Commission have been able to set in motion great modernization schemes without the [Government] departments comparing the economies of them with those of the possible alternative schemes; that in giving a banker's sanction to the expenditure on the London-Midland electrification, for example, the Ministry did not know what the alternative expenditure of using diesel locomotion would be."

Duramin Produce 10-12ton Outfit Costing £1,750 Complete with Singleaxled Running Gear: Track-tested at Lindley



The Super-Freighter van is shown coupled to an A.E.C. tractor. Interior panelling is flush, but it is possible to build a smooth exterior with the posts inside.

### Britain's First All-aluminium Semi-trailer Van?

WHAT is thought to be the first all-British integrally constructed semitrailer van, using only light-alloy members in its construction, has been produced by the Duramin Engineering Co., Ltd., Stonefield Way, Ruislip, Middx.

The major advantage of this method of construction, in which the van sides and roof act as load-carrying members, is that a marked reduction in weight can be achieved compared with vans based on a separate semi-trailer chassis. With the Duramin design, this could be up to 1 ton for maximum-load vans.

The first example of the new Super-Freighter range, as it is to be known, is a 10-12-ton single-axled design. This semi-trailer is 26 ft. long and weighs 2 tons 13 cwt. unladen, but complete with all running gear which is manufactured by Cranes (Dereham), Ltd. It costs approximately £1,750.

#### Specified Running Gear

Duramin do not intend to enter the semi-trailer field as manufacturers, but will market their integral body with any make of running gear specified by the customer. Purchase of the complete semi-trailer will be from the bodybuilders who will fit the axles, landing gear, upper coupling and any other ancillary equipment required.

Super-Freighters will be available in lengths from 22-28 ft., interior heights from 6 ft. 6 in.-9 ft., and in overall widths of 7 ft. 6 in. and 8 ft. To suit the running gear specified, the vans are offered with capacities of 10-12 tons, 14-15 tons, and 16-17 tons. Construction is similar for all types, but heavier-gauge panelling and other modifications to suit the increased loading are incorporated in the heavier versions.

The doors of the van were removed for certain track tests to check the rigidity of the body without the stiffening which the doors provide. An impression of the treatment that the outfit withstood is given by this picture.

When production is established, insulated and refrigerated models will be available, whilst special pallet-loading types and designs for bulk granular and powdered loads are planned.

The use of light alloy only in the fabrication of the integral assembly simplifies stressing problems. It is possible to make all joints in the structure extremely rigid, the necessary slight degree of flexibility being provided by flexing of the light-alloy members.

The underframe is made up of closely spaced channel-section transverse members—at 1-ft, 6-in, centres on the 10-12-ton design—riveted at their ends to longitudinal members of similar section. Most of the transverse channels are 5 in, deep with 2-in, flanges in \( \frac{1}{16} \) in, thick material, but the four members to which the sub-frame for the rear suspension is attached are 8 in, deep with \( \frac{3}{2} \)-in, thick flanges.

To avoid any "lozenging" effect under acceleration and braking stresses, the

suspension mounting is braced diagonally, and similar reinforcement is provided for the coupling and landing gear attachment points.

The flooring, which may be deal, hardwood or extruded duralumin planking, is mounted directly on the cross-members and clipped into position to avoid drilling and thereby weakening the supports.

The flat panels of the body sides are attached directly to the longitudinal channels at each side of the underframe, and riveted at the top to the robust roof cant-rails. Thus, the complete side assembly can be considered as a girder with the longitudinal members acting as flanges and the stiffened panelling forming the webs.

Bracing for the side panels is provided by external W-section vertical extrusions spaced (on the lightest van offered) at about 1-ft, 10-in. centres. This section is particularly suitable as the rivet heads are enclosed within the channel, whilst the bevels of the W form give a clean



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appearance to the body when it is viewed from an angle.

Combined with a rubbing rail—wood on the prototype but a light-alloy box on later models—attached to the underframe edges, the vertical exterior bracing gives effective protection to the panels. The rubbing rail is bolted on to simplify replacement and has a sloping upper face to prevent the accumulation of dirt.

The cambered roof is substantially constructed, again all in light alloy, and has transverse trusses beneath the weather-proofed joints between the panels. Small Perspex lights can be incorporated in it, but larger areas of translucent material cannot be easily accommodated without sacrifice of strength.

Double rear doors giving an almost full-width opening are fitted as standard. The edges of the doors wrap over the frame and close on a rubber seal. Camtype locking gear is fitted and the doors can be folded back against the body sides. Other rear-opening arrangements offered include a combination of doors and tail-board

A side door of limited width can be incorporated provided that the inevitable

loss of panel strength is compensated by additional reinforcements around the door aperture

All corners of the squared-off body interior are heavily gusseted. The use of steel rivets for the main load-bearing assemblies is, although unusual, standard Duramin practice and one which has given no corrosion trouble in many years' use on conventional light-alloy bodies. Certainly, such strong fastenings would seem to bear out the bodybuilders' claim that the body should give 15 years' service without major attention.

As fully heat-treated material, which can be discoloured by the processes through which it passes, is used throughout, Super-Freighters will normally be supplied in primer finish with a bright metal interior. It is suggested that sign-writing on the body sides should be applied on panels attached to the W-section posts.

This looks attractive and, when body repaints are necessary, the panels can be detached. A possible production option will be a flush-exterior model with the vertical stiffeners on the inside. The main demand, however, is expected to be for

the present model, which has flushinterior panelling to simplify loading.

The prototype semi-trailer has undergone tests on the road and on the M.I.R.A. track at Lindley. With a load of loose timber offcuts filling the body to two-thirds of its height, 100 miles were covered on the pavé track at speeds of between 15 and 25 m.p.h.

This was followed by about 80 miles on the same track with the load and the rear doors removed. The doors were taken off so that the body could be tested in its least rigid condition. It is stated that this arduous and, for semi-trailers, unusual trial, had no adverse effects on the van. Failures which did occur were confined to a broken semi-trailer spring, two wing stays on the A.E.C. tractor, and a tail-light bulb.

By the lack of parallel door movement during the laden test, it was ascertained that, no deformation of the basic box structure was taking place although the side panels were flexing visibly. During braking tests, the front bulkhead was bowed about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. by the load, but the rivets remained sound and the panel sprung back to normal.

#### Tanker for Liquid Egg

THE range of products carried in road tankers continues to widen. Now. John Rannoch, Ltd. are to employ a 2,000-gal.-capacity articulated unit to deliver liquid egg to their customers. The bulk delivery service is to augment the concern's established frozen and canned egg supply.

The 2,000-gal. tanker used by John Rannoch, Ltd., to deliver liquid egg to their customers is insulated with 2 in. of expanded polystyrene. Temperature rise does not exceed 2°F. in 24 hours.

O. G. Barnard and Sons, Ltd., Stow-market, produced the semi-trailer-based tanker using a B.T.C. Four-in-Line rear bogie, a Scammell automatic-coupling forecarriage and a special insulated stainless-steel tank manufactured by the A.P.V. Co., Ltd., Crawley. The three-



compartment tank is insulated with a 2-in. layer of expanded polystyrene coveted by aluminium cladding.

Prior to loading, the egg is chilled to 38° F. and the tank insulation ensures that the temperature rise of the load does

not exceed 2° F. in 24 hours. Load temperature in each compartment is indicated by external gauges. The tanker discharges into customers' bulk-storage tanks by a stainless-steel pump which moves 2,500 gal. per hour.

#### Low-loader Granted for Awkward Jobs

BECAUSE they had found it virtually impossible to hire Karrier Bantam vehicles, and their existing fleet was very much in demand, F. Phillips (Haulage), Ltd., 17 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield, applied to Mr. J. H. E. Randolph, Yorkshire Deputy Licensing Authority, at Sheffield last week, to add one such unit to their A licence.

Mr. J. Phillips, secretary, said that they specialized in the carriage of small pieces of machinery and the Karrier vehicles were ideal for this type of load. They wished to operate within 25 miles of base. Operational figures showed a large increase over the previous year and

several letters telling of delays and inconvenience were produced.

Mr. J. Chandler, works foreman of a machine tool factory, who employed Phillips, said that their production had increased by 15 per cent. They employed the applicants to carry tools to small engineering firms, whose premises often had low headroom and narrow access passages. Unloading was difficult unless a small, low, flat-platformed vehicle was employed. If this type of traffic was sent by rail, additional expense for packing would be involved.

Replying to Mr. G. P. Crowe, for British Railways, who objected, Mr.

Chandler said that sometimes he might be able to give Phillips two loads a day, but could give only a few hours' notice. Two more witnesses spoke of difficulties in obtaining the Karrier Bantam units, even when three days' notice had been given.

Mr. Crowe stated that if a special type of vehicle were required it was reasonable to give operators adequate notice. There was no evidence that the fund of transport in Sheffield was insufficient and that orthodox vehicles were under pressure.

Granting the application, Mr. Randolph said the Bantam was ideal for carrying awkward loads into awkward premises. There had been no evidence that anybody else could do the work.



(Above) The Gipsy picks its way along the sump-wrecking F.V.R.D. boulder track. (Left) With a full 10-cwt. load the steepen of slope was climbed non-stop in four-wheel drive, with first gen at the lowest ratio in the transfer box engaged.

At 30 m.p.h. o and required n But this speed

### NO WANDRIN

FOLLOWING its introduction early in 1958, the Austin Gipsy 4 x 4 utility was justly acclaimed for the excellent off-the-road performance, made possible largely by independent rubber suspension of all wheels. However, some who tested it, including *The Commercial Motor*, were less happy with the suspension and steering qualities on made roads. Heavy steering on cornering and wander when travelling in a straight line were reported.

Now, in the Gipsy Series II, the Austin Motor Co., Ltd., have almost eliminated these characteristics, to the detriment of cross-country ability. But the latest model is undoubtedly a far better compromise than its predecessor, for small general-purpose vehicles of this type are often destined to serve as part of the gentleman farmer's fancy dress and, in such rôles, spend most of their life on good surfaces. They must be reasonably docile under all conditions, although it would be unreasonable to demand private-car standards of road-holding.

The changes in handling have been achieved by only detail modifications. These amount to the use of softer rubber in the front and rear Flexitor trailing-arm suspension units to increase overall deflection by some 50 per

cent., and a revised steering layout, which now comprises a divided track rod operated through a frame-mounted idler shaft. The box-section trailing suspension arms are fabricated from a heavier-gauge material and, although similar in design to the original arms, are stronger.

To accommodate the increased travel of the rear suspension and improve ground clearance, lever-type dampers at all wheels have replaced the telescopic units. At the front, the swivel-axle supports and castings have been redesigned for greater rigidity, whilst rubber packing is now interposed between the rear differential unit and the frame.

(Right) The robust tubular cross-member which houses the rubber in torsion members for the trailing-arm front suspension units can be seen as the Gipsy breasts the 1 in 2 incline.



(Above) Some water was found on arid Bagshot Heath and a little red driver's feet through the air intakes in the front wings. (Left) Parl little difficulty to the Gipsy, which was exceeding 40 m.p.h. when plow (Right) Oddly, although its suspension is more resilient, the Gipsy so thrown about more by severe bumps than did the previous model.



At 30 m.p.h. on the 2-in.-2\(\frac{1}{2}\)-in.-sett track the Gipsy gave a lively ride and required much steering correction to maintain a straight course. But this speed was a commendable achievement for a vehicle which is docile on the road.



Restarts in both first and, as in this case, reverse gears were made on the 1 in 1.73 slope. These were complicated by the inability of the engine to idle at this angle and the ineffective hand brake. Slight wheel-spin occurred.

### NDRING GIPSY

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r comprises ne-mounted n arms are i, although nger. rear suspendampers at at the front, redesigned r interposed

recking F.V.R.D.E.
and the steepest to with first gear and

nouses the suspension incline. Other changes apparent on the latest Gipsy include new mounting brackets for the fuel tank, an extension filler tube to simplify refuelling from a can, a different exhaust system to reduce noise inside the vehicle, and modifications to the body-mounting brackets. Bodywork improvements consist of a larger ventilator below the windscreen, more rigid doors with external galvanized handles, and sliding windows in place of the non-opening side screens and signalling flaps.

The 2 199-lites four-cylindered petrol engine or the

The 2.199-litre four-cylindered petrol engine or the B.M.C. 2.2-litre oil engine is retained. A minor but important modification on the petrol-engined version has been the substitution of a 122 main jet for the original 130 jet in the Zenith carburetter. This was found on test to give a marked improvement in fuel economy.

As before, drive is taken through a four-speed gearbox and two-speed transfer box to the front and rear final-drive units. The transfer box provides either direct drive or a 2.02-to-1 reduction and, for the Series II model, the additional control which permits the high ratio to be employed with four-wheel drive is fitted as standard.

To allow direct comparison to be made with the original Gipsy road-test report published in *The Commercial Motor* on March 7, 1958, the Series II model supplied for test had the petrol engine and tilt body. A plastics hard-top is now available as an

option. The unladen vehicle weighed 1 ton 7½ cwt. With myself, the addition of 10 cwt. of 56-lb. iron weights and wooden baulks and padding to locate the unstable load brought the gross weight up to 2 tons 1 cwt. This was 1 cwt. more than the recommended gross figure. Of the total, 17½ cwt. was carried by the front wheels and 1 ton 3½ cwt. by the rear wheels.

Series II Model Combines Adequate Cross-country Ability with Improved Road Manners: Fuel Consumption Much Reduced by Carburetter Modification

By Anthony Ellis



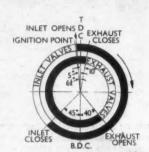
Heath and a little res wings. (Left) Park 40 m.p.h. when phone esilient, the Gipsy see did the previous mod

#### ROAD TEST No. 694/MI53-AUSTIN GIPSY 4 x 4

MODEL: Austin Gipsy Series II 1-ton 4 x 4 pickup with tilt and petrol engine.

WEIGHTS: Unladen Payload Driver, observer,	etc.	 	Tons 1	7 10 3	qr. 2 0 2
			2	1	0
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FIRING ORDER 1 · 3 · 4 · 2 COMPRESSION RATIO 6-8:1 VALVE CLEARANCES 0-012'

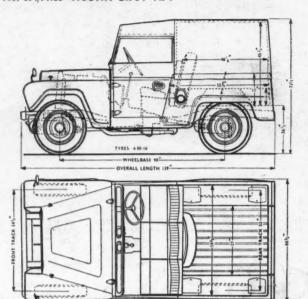
TRANSMISSION: Through 9-in-diameter singledry-plate clutch to four-speed synchromesh main gearbox and two-speed transfer gearbox, thence by one-piece propeller shaft to front and rear hypoid-bevel final-drive units.

GEAR RATIOS: (Main gearbox) 4.05, 2.35, 1.37 and 1 to 1 forward: reverse 5.168 to 1: (transfer gearbox) 2.02 and 1 to 1; final-drive ratios 5.125 to 1

BRAKES: Girling hydraulic system, with twoleading-shoe units at front wheels and leadingand-trailing-shoe units at rear wheels. Hand brake linked mechanically to rear wheels only. Diameter of drums 10 in.; width of facings, front and rear, 1.75 in.; total frictional area 133 sq. in., that is 64.9 sq. in. per ton gross weight as tested

FRAME: Pressed-steel box section with six cross-members. All-welded construction.

STEERING: High-efficiency cam type, ratio 14.5 to 1. Steering-wheel diameter, 1 ft. 6 in.
SUSPENSION: Independent all round by trailing arms and Moulton Flexitor torsional rubber units. Lever-type dampers front and rear.



ELECTRICAL: 12v. compensated-voltage-control system with 51-amp.-hr. battery.

FUEL CONSUMPTION: See separate panel for detailed results.

TANK CAPACITY: 13 gal., range approximately 260 miles.

ACCELERATION: Through gears, 0-20 m.p.h., 5.5 sec.; 0-30 m.p.h., 9 sec.; 0-40 m.p.h., 15.5 sec.; direct drive, 10-20 m.p.h., 6.5 sec.; 10-30 m.p.h., 12 sec.; 10-40 m.p.h., 19.5 sec.

BRAKING: From 20 m.p.h., 18.4 ft. (23.5 ft. per sec. per sec.); from 30 m.p.h., 37.5 ft. (25.8 ft. per sec. per sec.).

FORWARD VISION: To within 13.5 ft. of the front bumper at ground level on the centre line. WEIGHT RATIO: 1.52 b.h.p. per cwt. gross weight as tested.

TURNING CIRCLES: 37 ft. both locks (manufacturers' figure).

MAKERS: The Austin Motor Co., Ltd., Longbridge, Birmingham.

#### FUEL CONSUMPTION ANALYSIS

Payload (cwt.)	Gross wt. (tons)	Test	Average m.p.g.	Average m.p.h.	Gross ton-m.p.g.	Time-load- mileage factor
10	2.05	Full load, high speed Full load, low speed	20.4	37.5 28.8	41.8 46.9	1,568 1,351
5	1.8	Half load, high speed Half load, low speed	21.8	36.7 29.7	39.2 43.3	1,439 1,283 1,299
Nil	1.55	No load, high speed No load, low speed	22.3 25.3	37.5 32.1	34.6 39.2	1,299

As for the 1958 test, the F.V.R.D.E. suspension courses at Chobham and the rough track on Bagshot Heath were employed to assess the cross-country capabilities of the vehicle. Throughout this section of the test the full load was carried. Easy ascents and restarts in both forward and reverse gears were made on the 1-in-4 and 1-in-3 test slopes. The hand brake held the vehicle facing up or down the 1-in-4 gradient, but allowed slight creep on the steeper slope. Bottom gear with low ratio-engaged in the transfer gearbox permitted fairly easy restarts on the 1-in-2 incline, although this was complicated by the inability of the hand brake to hold the vehicle at all.

This factor, combined with engine stalling at tick-over speeds because of the carburetter's dislike of operating at such steep angles, made restarts on 1 in 1.73 almost impossible. However, with one set of wheels on the concrete centre strip and the other set on the dry timber baulks let into the slope to suit tracked vehicles, I was able to get the Gipsy away from a standstill by operating the throttle pedal by hand. In this contortionist manner restarts were made with full load in forward and reverse

gears, low auxiliary, facing up and down the slope. Slight wheelspin occurred to assist the hard-worked clutch.

All the suspension tracks at Chobham are 500 yd. long. On the 1-in.-1½-in.-sett track, which comprises transverse concrete bars at irregular intervals, the vehicle could be driven at up to 40 m.p.h. without undue discomfort, although there was a slight tendency for it to swing away from the chosen line. Six runs on this track produced no adverse effects, other than the loss of two of the push-on hub caps. I doubt whether these are necessary on a utility vehicle. If they must be fitted, attachment by screws would be an improvement.

A number of runs on the much more severe but similarly faid-out 2-in.-2½-in. concrete-sett course indicated that the latest Gipsy is not quite as controllable under such torture as its predecessor. Although it was possible to maintain 30 m.p.h., the suspension did not appear to be sufficiently damped and gave a lively ride, whilst the steering required constant and substantial correction to maintain a reasonably straight course.

(Continued on page 865)

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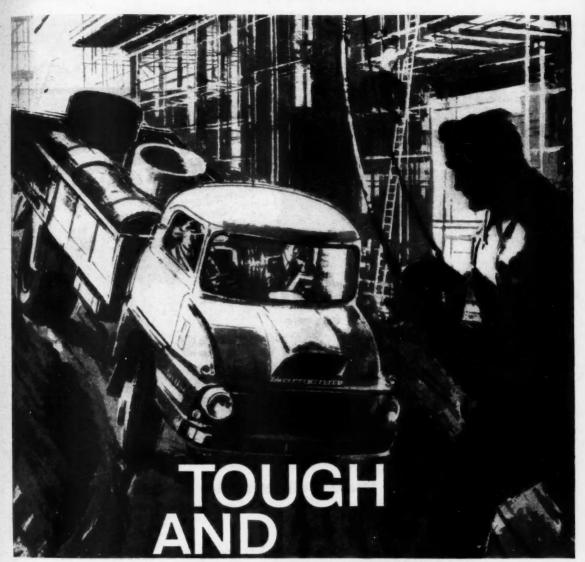
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### TERRIFIC!

Tough-as-they-come and twice as terrific, these Thames Traders — by Ford! Built for long hauls, heavy loads . . . to cart and carry . . . shift and spread in conditions as rough as you and the weather like to make them! Built to cut long-mission fatigue and to make quite sure that, whatever type of body, drivers can see clearly what's happening behind. And with newly-installed Hydrovac brakes by Clayton Dewandre for the 7 ton Trader, braking is immediate and positive; and all this massive power is brought instantly, obediently to heel!

### THAMES TRADERS

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# Motorways demand MICHELIN 'X' tyres

### "X" tyres generate the minimum of heat

Their casing, being made of steel cords laid radially, has only one ply instead of 10 to 14 as in textile tyres. Therefore there is no inter-ply movement to produce heat.

#### 'X' tyres dissipate heat quickly

Steel is a good conductor of heat-textiles are bad ones.

and in any case . . .

### 'X' tyres could not be affected by heat

Steel is as strong at 212° Fahrenheit as when cold.



That is why Michelin 'X' tyres can carry the same maximum load at 60 m.p.h. as at 30, without adjustment of pressure, however long the journey.

Whether you transport passengers or goods, Michelin 'X' tyres enable you to take advantage of modern roads and to reduce your transport costs considerably... the harder the running, the greater your saving.

1860/22/G

MICHELIN TYRE CO. LTD. Head Office and Factory: STOKE-ON-TRENT

Yet I believe that there are few, if any, vehicles, other than much more expensive military designs, which could have traversed the track at this speed. The Gipsy falls down only by comparison with the extremely high standard set by the original model.

The suspension is entirely adequate when dealing with bumps of lesser magnitude. On the pavé track, 40 m.p.h. could be maintained without difficulty. Some form of grab rail on the facia for the passenger would be an advantage, as the bench seat provides little location.

The cross-country course on Bagshot Heath was dry, with a hard surface, on the day of the test. A circuit of the Alpine course with full load showed that the Gipsy is still very much a go-anywhere vehicle, but has to be taken over ruts and severe corrugations with caution if the driver has any concern for his personal comfort. Increased suspension travel appears to have reduced the efficiency



course. Nevertheless, the braking figures recorded were satisfactory, whilst the wheels did not lock from either speed.

The hand brake, as I had expected from its performance on the test slopes, was not particularly effective, producing a mean reading on the Tapley meter of 26.5 per cent. when applied from 20 m.p.h.

The change in main-jet size has produced a commendable improvement in the fuel-consumption rate. Compared with the Series I Gipsy, tested over the same six-mile out-and-return course, the Series II model gave nearly 4 m.p.g. more when operating at high speed—up to 55 m.p.h.—with full load, returning a figure of 20.4 m.p.g. Similar economies were apparent under all other conditions of load and speed. I am surprised that so large an improvement could be achieved by this modification, but Austin are adamant that this was the only change made.

Little or no power has been lost by the reduction in jet size, as shown by the acceleration times recorded. These were almost identical with those obtained with the earlier Gipsy, although the later model was running at a slightly higher gross weight.

Cooling efficiency was checked on the 4-milelong Bison Hill. From a standing start the ascent was made in 2 minutes 5 seconds. Second gear, the lowest ratio used, was engaged for a total time of 20 seconds. For most of the distance the engine was pulling hard in third gear to maintain a speed between 25 m.p.h. and 30 m.p.h. In an ambient temperature of 74° F, the coolant temperature was 167° F. at the top of the hill, having risen by 5° F.

Detail improvements on the latest Gipsy include a larger ventilator below the windscreen, doors of more rigid construction with sliding windows and galvanized external hardware. Body and fuel tank mountings have also been modified.

of the springs in dealing with really severe cross-country conditions at speed.

But it is safe to say that few Gipsys in normal service will be used on such difficult terrain. Later tests over loose-surfaced, pot-holed tracks and open country on the South Downs showed the Gipsy in its element. Almost any speed could be maintained without discomfort or undue concentration on driving.

The softer suspension has increased permissible wheel movement by 50 per cent., giving about 9 in. total deflection from full bump to full rebound. Accompanying this is a change in castor angle for the front wheels of 40 degrees. One would expect this to give rise to even more peculiar steering characteristics on hard roads than occurred with the Series I model, for which the total change in castor angle was 27 degrees.

I found that this was not so. It results in a softer ride, whilst no wander was apparent when travelling in a straight line at any speed, even when fairly strong side winds were encountered on the motorway. The vehicle understeers on corners to make the steering heavier as the rate of turn increases, but this is not objectionable. Fast cornering can induce a fair amount of roll, but tyre squeal, which was noted with the earlier model, is largely absent.

Braking tests showed up another characteristic arising from the softer suspension. Sharp brake applications caused the complete vehicle to "curtsy" as the trailing-arm suspension units deflected under the increased load. From 20 m.p.h. this effect was fairly mild, but from 30 m.p.h. it was severe and led to marked deviation from a straight

The Gipsy was then coasted down the hill out of gear with the speed kept down to 20 m.p.h. by the foot brake. As usual, top gear and full throttle were applied against the brake to offset the decreasing gradient towards the bottom.

Because of the curtsying effect when braking, it was not possible to take a Tapley reading during the "crash" stop that followed, as the meter consistently recorded over 100 per cent. However, the brakes showed no excessive fade.

A puzzling occurrence during the test was the disintegration of the outer universal joint on the off-side rear drive shaft.

This happened on the motorway after I had done about 50 miles of sustained running at speeds up to 55 m.p.h. It must, I think, have been damaged originally during the cross-country tests, because Hardy-Spicer have as yet been unable to diagnose a fault in material.

Generally, the Gipsy is pleasant to drive. Engine and transmission are quiet, whilst the exhaust is now less audible. The pedals, particularly that for the 9-in.-diameter clutch, are heavier in action than is normal for a vehicle of this weight and this was liable to become tiring in dense traffic.

In all, the Series II Gipsy represents a substantial improvement on the original model for general use and should now establish itself in the specialized but wide market at which it is aimed. The standard vehicle with petrol engine cost £650. The price is £755 with the oil engine.

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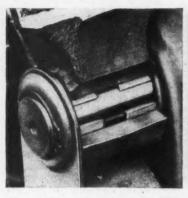
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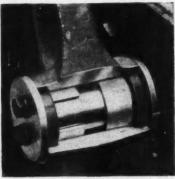
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An anchor bolt bearing as fitted by Scania-Vabis to front and rear brakes. There are two Glacier DU bushings in the shoe with a grease space between them. The anchor bolt is chromium plated, and there are two O-ring seals. Lubrication by the heatresistant grease applied during assembly is permanent.



A Scania-Vabis clutch-peau ven ins.
Two Glacier DU bushings in the pedal have Scania-Vabis clutch-pedal bearing. a grease space between them, and the bearing shaft is chromium plated. The two seal rings are of the sleeve type. As with the brake component depicted on the left, permanent lubrication is provided by chassis grease applied during assembly.

#### Progress Towards the Vehicle that Will Run Without Attention: Advantages of P.T.F.E .coated Components

At low speeds and heavy loadings (up to 18 tons per sq. in.) the coefficient of friction of a DU bearing is at a minimum and the coefficient rises only slightly with an increase in speed or a reduction in loading. The minimum coefficient value ranges from 0.05 to 0.10, whilst the normal coefficient lies between 0.10 and 0.16. This is particularly important for steering connections, where the loading is highest at low rotational speeds.

Any bearing, even when lightly loaded, generates a certain amount of heat, and if there is no lubricant flow most of this heat must be conducted away from the bearing surface. Normal plain plastics materials are suitable for only lightly loaded bearings, because of their poor heat conductivity.

#### **Bearings That Need** No Maintenance

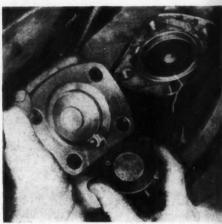
LTHOUGH it will not emerge for some years, a completely maintenance-free commercial vehicle has been the aim of designers for many years. Lubrication is possibly the main factor

For some years self-lubricated bearings have been applied on a limited scale to the automotive field, but the lubricant-free bearing can offer

great advantages over a conventional self-lubricated type.

A bearing devoid entirely of lubricant can be used where the presence of any conventional lubricant is undesirable, impracticable or unreliable, and where temperatures are either too high or too low for effective oils and greases. The Glacier DU is a completely dry bearing

(Right) A Scania-Vabis kingpin thrust bearing layout with a Glacier DU washer on a self-levelling device in the lower cover. A matching washer of hardened steel is pressed in the king-pin end. Grease is applied every 1,300 miles.





OVERLAY

STEEL BACKING

thermal expansion associated with low thermal conductivity. It is also costly.

(Left) This diagram shows how

the overlay coating of p.t.f.e.-

leaded mixture disappears

during running-in.

In the Glacier application these disadvantages are overcome by mixing the p.t.f.e. with a fine lead powder and forcing the mixture into a porous tin-bronze layer. This is laid on a tin-plated steel backing strip. On top of the impregnated bronze interlayer an overlay coating of p.t.f.e.-lead mixture is applied.

This overlay gradually disappears, because, when the bearing is used, the surface film of the p.t.f.e. mixture becomes attenuated and momentarily the bronze particles rub against the metal of the rotating or oscillating item being carried by the bearing. The heat generated causes the p.t.f.e. mixture to expand and extrude from the porous interlayer, immediately smearing over and healing the bearing surface.

Similarly, the heat generated causes the bearing material itself to expand and it is when this expansion is substantially greater than that of the bearing housingas is the case with plain plastics materials -that the bore of the bearing will close in on the shaft and seizure results.

#### Interference Fit Maintained

The DU bearing, however, has the thermal conductivity of an oil-impregnated bearing, or about 60 per cent. that of solid bronze. The thermal-expansion coefficient lies midway between that of steel or cast iron and aluminium or bronze, so that journal bearings will not lose interference fit in any normal type of

It is claimed that a DU bearing can be used satisfactorily at all temperatures between minus 200° C. and plus 280° C. and that the performance varies little over this range. Rapid fluctuations of temperature have no effect on it.

The bearing is also generally more tolerant of dirt-laden atmospheres than are oil- or grease-lubricated units and can operate satisfactorily when exposed to

making use of polytetrafluoroethylene. and is derived from an earlier type of bearing developed in 1954, by the Glacier Metal Co., Ltd., Alperton, Middx.

AFTER BUNNING IN

Polytetrafluoroethylene is a fluorocarbon plastic with a unique combination of properties which include a low coefficient of friction, wide service temperature range, chemical inertness, and immunity to solvents and water. On the other hand, it has poor mechanical strength and high

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nerally more ospheres than units and can exposed to abrasive dusts. Nevertheless, sealing is advisable to guard against jamming of the hearing.

In addition to reducing friction, a normal lubricant helps to protect from corrosion the item carried in the bearing. Because there is no conventional lubricant in a DU bearing, a steel item would be susceptible to corrosion unless protected. There is no reason, however, why a conventional lubricant cannot be used in conjunction with a DU bearing purely to resist corrosion. Indeed, in certain cases lubricant can improve the performance materially by carrying heat away from the bearing surface.

#### **Protection Against Corrosion**

To guard against mildly corrosive surroundings the back and edges of the bearing are tin-plated, but if liable to be exposed to seriously corrosive liquids these parts may be further protected from attack by electroplating with lead or other corrosion-resistant metals. Standard DU bearings, however, are suitable for use in pumps and metering devices dealing with petrol, paraffin and other industrial solvents without the need for additional protective treatment.

For normal applications where there is substantial degree of movement, a design limit of 4 tons per sq. in. is recommended for a DU bearing, but the yield strength of the bearing in compression is a minimum of 20 tons per sq. in., and loads approaching this figure can be imposed if there is little movement.

Although it is six years since Glacier produced their first dry bearing—which was known as the DP and was suitable for only light loadings-the more successful DU type is only slowly being adopted by commercial-vehicle manufacturers. The largest users are A.B. Scania-Vabis. who employ DU bearings for the thrust washers in king-pin assemblies, front and rear brake-camshaft bearings, brake-shoe anchor-bolt bushes, and various controllever and pedal bushes.

#### Well-known Users

In Britain, A.E.C., Ltd., fit DU bearings in the king-pins of their Bridgemaster buses. Albion Motors, Ltd., and Commer Cars, Ltd., use DU thrust washers in king-Bristol Commercial assemblies. Vehicles, Ltd., employ bushes of this type for brake-shoe anchor pins. Dennis Bros., Ltd., use them on brake- and clutch-pedal cross-shafts and Fodens, Ltd., fit them in accelerator linkages.

Both Guy Motors, Ltd., and Transport Vehicles (Daimler), Ltd., employ DU bushes and thrust washers for king-pins and further bushes are incorporated in Guy accelerator linkages and the brakeand clutch-pedal assemblies. Levland Motors, Ltd., fit such bushes to the levers of their centrifugal clutch.

DU bushes are available in bore sizes up to 2 in. diameter and thrust washers are offered in thicknesses of up to 0.091 in. and outside diameters of 31 in. Strips 4 in, wide and 18 in, long of up to 0.091 in. thickness are also available. In all cases the p.t.f.e. used is supplied by Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., under the trade name Fluon.

#### New Equipment and Publications

#### Sack or Bale Loader

OR £100 H. C. Pope, Ltd., 8 Elm Street, Northampton, offer complete sack-loading equipment for attachment to a vehicle. The gear consists of a gearbox power take-off, a

hydraulic ram with a relief valve and connecting hoses, a single loading arm and a sack cradle.

The ram power unit is mounted beneath the rear of the vehicle and the box-section adjustable lifting arm is hooked to it. The arm is light and can be handled easily when it is detached from

the power unit whilst the cradle can accommodate all types of sack, including paper ones. An optional extension for the standard arm permits bales to be lifted to 11 ft. 6 in.

#### No Driver

WORM-DRIVE hose clips which do not require the application of a screw driver to tighten them are manufactured by the Elms Garage (Birmingham), Ltd., Rednal Road, West Heath, Birmingham, 31. A wing plate is



The Lightning wing-screw hose clip can be secured without using a screwdriver. It is finished in cadmium plate.

fitted in place of the usual slotted head on the worm. Thus, the clip can be tightened by hand alone.

The Lightning wing-screw clips, as they are known, are finished in cadmium plate. sizes cost £4 16s, whilst 1-in.-21-in, clips are priced at £5 14s.

#### Welding Wiles

BY following the instructions given in "Practical Welding Repairs" C. G. Bainbridge, it would be quite feasible for the beginner to teach himself all the commonly used welding techniques. But the book is likely to be more appreciated by the experienced welder who will find it an invaluable reference for repair welding on castings and sheet metal or the rebuilding of worn components.

Numerous tables and illustrations augment the text whilst, in addition to the chapters on welding

Paper sacks as well as other types can Paper sacks as well as other types cui by handled by this loading gear pro-duced by H. C. Pope, Ltd. The com-ponents of the equipment, including a gearbox power take-off, cost £100. It can be adapted to lift bales to a height of 11 ft. 6 in.



techniques and metal properties, sections are devoted to miscellaneous repairs, the care of equipment and safety. The 128-page book is published in hard covers by Temple Press Limited, Bowling Green Lane, London, E.C.1, at 15s. or 15s. 9d. by post.

#### Clean Petrol

most fuel lines.

PAPER-ELEMENT petrol filter A which will remove water and dirt down to a few microns in size is being distributed by Stenor, Ltd., Kew Foot Road, Richmond, Surrey. The filter, which has a nylon case, is manufactured in this country by Simmonds Aerocessories, Ltd., under licence from the Fram Corporation of America.

The Fram In-line filter, as it is known, costs 17s. 6d. and is available in sizes to fit fuel lines of 1 in., 5 in. and 1 in. outside diameter.



### Two Views on the Transport "Crisis"

TWO booklets each entitled "Britain's Transport Crisis" have been issued at 1s. by the Road and Rail Association, 5 Carlos Place, London, W.I. One, subtitled "A Conservative's View," is by Mr. Geoffrey Wilson, M.P., and the other, "A Socialist's View," by Mr. Ernest Davies.

Curiously enough, it is Mr. Davies' script that reads less like a political broadsheet and is, in the reviewer's opinion, the more thoughtful and considered of the two. The difference in outlook between the two authors is perhaps not one of politics but of standpoint.

Mr. Wilson is avowedly empirical in his approach to the transport "crisis" (surely a slight over-statement?), whereas Mr. Davies takes a more detached allembracing view. An empiricist, judging each case on its own merits, tends to ignore the whole subject of which any problem is a part. Thus he may make decisions which someone taking a

broader view would reject.

A person taking a broader view, on the other hand, is led to conclusions on individual aspects of his subject which are unacceptable to the empiricist. This is well illustrated by a comparison of the two texts.

The most striking of Mr. Davies' proposals is for the licensing of ancillary users in the same way as hauliers, although he would exempt much Clicence traffic hardly competitive with professional carriers and the railways.

#### **Similar Footing**

The object of this would be to put all goods haulage on a similar footing so that the total amount of operation would be better related to need. "It would therefore contribute towards reduction of the wasteful excess facilities and also bring benefit to the railways," says Mr. Davies.

This is certainly a suggestion

This is certainly a suggestion unacceptable to an empiricist. It may be labelled "Socialist," but this would not be wholly correct, for support for it could undoubtedly be gained from many hauliers by no means of this sympathy. Mr. Wilson, one gathers, would oppose it, for he endorses the freedom that the C-licensee enjoys.

"The choice of transport, like the choice of a wife," he says, "depends not only on an infinite variety of special circumstances but also on individual taste." Nevertheless he recognizes the conflict between professional and ancillary operators when he deals with the question of whether the railways' track costs should be borne by the State.

The difference in decisions which may be arrived at from the two standpoints is also shown on the subject of uneconomic rural bus services. Mr. Davies states: "Other things being equal, the larger the area of operation the better the opportunity for cross-subsidization, and, with the development of motorization and changes in travelling habits, many of the present operators now operate within too small an area.

Booklets by Mr. G. Wilson and Mr. E. Davies Differ Not So Much Politically as in Standpoints from Which Their Subject is Viewed

"Organization on a regional basis would probably contribute to the solution of the problem, but the larger the area and the longer the routes, the more desirable it is that there be co-ordination with the railways," he adds. In other words, he is harking back to the area schemes proposed by the first post-war Labour Government.

Mr. Wilson's suggested cure for the decline in rural transport services seems to be the grant of subsidies for the maintenance of non-paying routes, both road and rail. Actually, it is a little difficult to pick out from his booklet the concrete proposals he affirms. His text is more oratorical than academic in that a cursory reading casts a spell but closer examination for hard facts disappoints.

Mr. Davies is more literary (his reference to "a palimpsest" sends one hunting for the dictionary) yet more down to earth. Many will welcome his statement that "solutions [of the transport problem] based on political doctrine have failed," and at least on this point he is at one with Mr. Wilson, whose theme throughout is that neither full-scale direction of transport nor "half measures of integration" are acceptable.

"We should build," he says, "as many roads as we can afford, while encouraging the railways to relieve the traffic on them as much as possible by efficient competition and, in so far as uneconomical public services are deemed to be necessary in the national interest, both by railway or road, we must be prepared to pay for them as taxpayers."

He adds: "It is by such direct ad hormeans, rather than by any complicated system of nationalization and controls, that we are most likely to overcome our difficulties and develop our transport system." One is left with the suspicion that Mr. Wilson has failed to come to close grips with his subject, or that he is satisfied with things as they are.

Mr. Davies' other proposals include exemption from fuel tax for road passenger services, and priority for their needs in schemes for highway improvement and traffic control; reconstruction of the capital structure of the British Transport Commission involving the waiving of their deficits; and a change in the taxation system for goods vehicles so that heavy long-distance outfits paid more.

#### Global Plan

Any of these can be upheld or attacked, but probably only if each were considered in isolation, that is empirically. In Mr. Davies' broad purview they are valid propositions for argument and fit in as parts of a global plan, to use a fashionable phrase.

Whether his plan is desirable is another question, but one feels that in the end an empirical Government, is forced by events into taking measures which have long been advocated by those who take the wider view. But to apply only parts of a comprehensive plan is probably as bad in the long run as to do nothing. Mr. Davies and Mr. Wilson are singing a duet. The song, "All or Nothing At All."

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#### Family Fined £135 on Multiple Charges

SIX charges against Messrs. W. D. Houston and Sons, Langdykes, by Leven, concerning excessive driving hours, failure to keep proper records, overloading and the use of lorries contrary to licence conditions, brought fines totalling £135 at Cupar Sheriff's Court, Fife, last week.

The charges, all admitted, were: That on February 4 and 16 two partners. John Wood Houston and Joseph J. Houston, each drove lorries for seven hours continuously; that proper records were not kept by Joseph Houston on 15 occasions between January 22 and March 9 and by John Houston on 23 occasions between January 15 and March 5; that overweight lorries were used on four occasions between January 15 and March 9; that B-licence conditions had been violated and that on four occasions a C-licensed lorry had been used for hire or reward.

Mr. J. C. L. Anderson, defending, stressed that the offences had been com-

mitted by partners in the firm and not by employees. There was no question of employees being forced to break the rules. The business consisted of Mrs. W. D. Houston and her four sons. The men were all in their twenties and ran two lorries

He stated, in connection with the charges of excessive hours that the two partners had stopped for meals, but had not recorded the halt in the log books.

Of the overweight charges he said that three loads of sugar beet had been taken on in wet weather. It had been impossible to weigh the beet in the fields when it was loaded. The other charge involved lime, but the driver was in a hurry and had not checked the weight.

The charges of using lorries contrary to licence conditions arose out of a vehicle lying idle and the concern being persuaded to use it to help out another contractor who was short of transport.

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rUST when the road transport industry looked like getting through the Parliamentary session without incident, the House of Lords fired a Parthian shot in the form of an amendment to the Road Traffic and Roads Improvement Bill. It took a day or so for the blow to sink in, and the outcry that followed may be out of proportion to the significance of the change in the law. What road operators felt was confirmation of the suspicion, never completely lulled during the session, that all governments, when it comes to the point, are hostile to them and cannot be trusted.

The point of law involved marks the spot of more than one political battlefield. Section 26 of the Road Traffic Act, 1960, empowers local authorities outside the London traffic area to make traffic regulation orders, which may include restrictions on the loading and unloading of vehicles. The provision goes back to the Road Traffic Act, 1956. A valuable safeguard forbids the making of orders that would prevent reasonable access for vehicles to premises situated on the roads concerned. There is a proviso to this proviso. A restriction on the loading or unloading of goods will not be regarded as preventing access, reasonable or otherwise.

The second proviso has yet another on its back, so that the complete Section 26 is rather like a series of Chinese boxes one inside the other. The ban on collection and delivery may in fact be regarded as preventing reasonable access if it occupies a total of more than six hours in any consecutive period of 24 hours. This final proviso is the one that Lord Lucas of Chilworth marked down for elimination. In theory, therefore, local authorities will now be able to enforce a continuous restriction on loading and unloading, with no consideration whatever for the convenience of shopkeepers and other residents.

This seems so heartless that the official spokesmen have rushed in with the usual reassurances. No local authority, it is said soothingly, would be so harsh or so foolish or so unmindful of the interests of ratepayers as even to contemplate a continuous ban. The argument does not convince the road operator. He has perhaps heard it before, or something much like it, and he naturally asks why it should be thought necessary to pass a law that will never be anything else than a dead letter.

#### Reasonably Free Hand

On the whole, although he likes restrictions no more than the next person, the road operator agrees that there must be some of them with the road system as it is at the present time. He also sees the desirability of allowing the authorities a reasonably free hand. He may agree with Lord Derwent that the ideal legislation would be embodied in a form of words that gave the local authorities the power that Parliament wanted them to have but also preserved reasonable right of access. The Road Traffic Act, 1960, appeared to do this, even if not entirely to the satisfaction of the House of Lords. If the law must be amended, the road operator is anxious that the principle should not be destroyed.

The Government are not impervious to this argument. The official solution of the problem, first set out by Lord Chesham, is a change in the procedure regulations that help put the Road Traffic Acts into effect. Wherever there is a dispute about a loading ban taking up more than six hours out of the 24, it is suggested that the Minister

of Transport should have a report of the local inquiry at least a month before the appropriate order is made. Although the Minister can bring his powers of persuasion to bear on a local authority if he thinks it is acting unreasonably, there is apparently no direct provision for an appeal to him. He has power, however, in certain circumstances to amend or revoke an order once the local authority has made it, and he may use the power to reduce

an inordinate time limit set upon a ban.

More complicated proposals even than this have been known to work out in practice. It still seems a clumsy procedure that apparently makes decisive action by the Minister possible only when the intention he deplores has been put into effect. The road transport interests find the circumstances exhausting enough as they are. Whenever a restriction is proposed on loading and unloading, the road transport organizations-notably the Traders' Road Transport Association and the Road Haulage Association -usually with the support of local bodies of traders, must carry out the lengthy task of lodging objections and mobilizing the opposition.

#### Regardless of Dogma

What has happened with the latest traffic legislation is to road transport operators a typical illustration of standard Government practice regardless of party dogma. Parliament rise this week after nearly a year since the General Election. When they began their period of office there were high hopes, especially among the carriers of goods. An increased Conservative majority faced a disunited Labour Party, and for this state of affairs the contrasted attitude of the two parties towards the transport industry was undoubtedly partly responsible. Hauliers in particular may have believed, without putting the idea into precise words, that there was now an opportunity for removing some of their grievances.

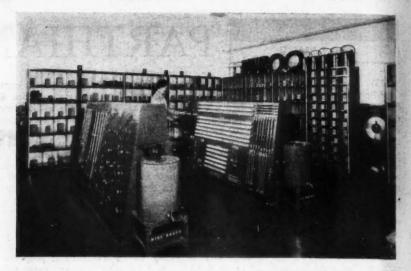
The political situation is still much the same as it was just after the election, and the road transport industry equally has no progress to show. There has been no relief from taxation. Even the road programme appears, at least to the outside observer, to be slowing down. This may not be true. In road building, especially in Britain, there are so many stages between the dream and the reality that it is difficult to assess the situation at any one time.

On none of the many matters such as licensing that hauliers discuss with such assiduity are the Government prepared to offer advice or consolation, or even to show curiosity. The troubles of the railways are discussed interminably in Parliament and by special bodies set up for the purpose, but because road transport operators contrive to remain in business without making a loss, their complaints are not thought worth too much attention. The Government show more enthusiasm for restrictions, such as those recently proposed for the carriage of abnormal and indivisible loads exceeding a stated width or length, or such as the widening of the opportunities for local authorities to ban loading and unloading.

All this is an indication of the lines along which the minds of some road transport operators are working. It may not be an accurate reflection of Government policy or thinking. It is unfortunate, and not altogether the fault of the Government, that the move to enlarge the powers of local authorities should have come just before Parliament rose, so that this is the point road operators are most likely to carry with them on their holidays.

### Planning for Profit

The Birmingham and Midland Motor Omnibus Co., Ltd., have opened a new garage for 70 buses at Newtown Road, Nuneaton. The building is of brick and steel construction and embodies a simple trussed-steel roof with a span of 105 ft. The accompanying view is of the well-laid-out engineering stores.



### Availability Versus COST

REFERRED last week to some of the problems which could arise when staff cars were maintained and operated alongside a commercial fleet. Having already provided a maintenance depot for an ancillary fleet, it would appear logical and economic to use existing equipment for the maintenance of executives' and representatives' cars. In this event, it is imperative that the respective responsibility and authority of both the users of the vehicles and those in charge of maintenance are clearly defined. Otherwise, routine preventive maintenance schemes which had worked well before the acquisition of staff cars could be seriously disrupted, to the ultimate detriment of the goods fleet.

Maximum availability for service is obviously a desirable objective, whether a vehicle is used for commercial or private purposes. In the latter case, however, the problems confronting those responsible for maintenance are aggravated by the fact that in the majority of cases staff cars would not be available during the greater part of the day and, in addition, would probably be taken home in the evenings and at week-ends. Many national companies, therefore, consider that, in the provision of a staff-car fleet, the best compromise between a high standard of availability and reasonable cost is obtained by frequent replacement of vehicles.

By limiting this period to a year, for example, only routine service should be required. Additional advantages would be that, unless annual mileages were exceptionally high, no expenditure would normally be incurred on tyres, whilst since the war there has been a ready sale for low-mileage used cars. The possibility of breakdowns should also be reduced to a minimum.

#### Average Price

Now let me examine the operating costs of 1,000 c.c., 1,750 c.c., 2,500 c.c. and 4,000 c.c. cars that are replaced every year. It is assumed that the average price for the smallest car would be around £640. With an annual licence duty of £12 10s., the first item of standing cost would amount to 5s. per week, calculated on the basis of a 50-week year. Rent and rates in respect of garaging are arbitrarily assessed at 6s. 8d. per week, although I appreciate that there could not only be wide fluctuations in this amount but there may be instances where no such cost is incurred.

In addition to recent increases in motor insurance, there has also been a closer scrutiny of individual accident records, with the result that there can be substantial variations in the amount of premium paid on cars engaged in apparently similar work. Allowing for 50 per cent. excess in respect of commercial travelling, the annual insurance premium on the 1,000 c.c. car is reckoned at £40 17s., or 16s. 5d. per week. Incidentally, it

Operation of Staff-car Fleets Necessitates Renewal Policies and Costing Methods Adapted to Particular Needs: Detailed Expenses of Four Types of Vehicle

is assumed that representatives' cars would be employed substantially in city areas and so incur correspondingly high insurance rates.

Because of annual replacement, a different procedure from that normally used in this series of articles and in "'The Commercial Motor' Tables of Operating Costs" will be adopted in calculating depreciation. The cost of the initial set of tyres will not, on this occasion, be deducted from the price of the vehicle to arrive at the amount to be written off.

Allowing for a drop of 12 per cent. in resale price, the balance to be written off would be £76. This would be the equivalent of 30s. 5d. per week, as this item will now be reckoned as a standing cost, irrespective of the mileage operated. The total of these four items of standing costs is £3 6s. 1d.

#### Tyre Damage

With fuel purchased at 4s. 7½d, per gallon and an average rate of consumption of 36 m.p.g., the fuel cost per mile would be 1.53d. Lubricants are reckoned to add 0.08d. Although no expenditure on the replacement of tyres will be necessary, it would be prudent to make some provision for accidental damage. This will be reckoned at 0.15d, per mile, representing the cost of one cover.

As with tyres, the item of maintenance will be substantially reduced in cost as a result of the policy of annual replacement. It will be calculated at 0.77d, per mile. This figure is obtained by averaging the cost of the manufacturers' servicing schemes over the 12 months. The total of these four items of running cost thus becomes 2.53d, per mile, or exactly 1d, if the cost of fuel is excluded.

Adding standing and running costs produces operating costs per mile (assuming that the car was not driven by a chauffeur) of 10.46d. at 100 miles per week, 6.50d. at 200 miles, 5.17d. at 300 miles and 4.51d. at 400 miles per week. Excluding fuel costs, the corresponding figures would be 8.93d., 4.97d., 3.64d. and 2.98d. per mile.

The 1,750 c.c. car is assumed to cost about £780. Licence duty remains at 5s. per week, but a nominal increase in rent and rates to 7s. 2d. per week will be made. Insurance costs

(Continued on page 871)

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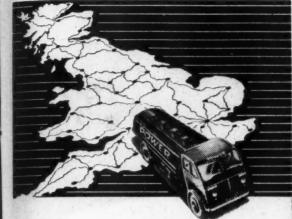
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### The secret of bigger payloads lower maintenance costs - greater safety

There's only one way to prove the of weight saving seem obsolete—and He's a Happy Man worth of a trailer axle-and that's by watching it work with big payloads over millions of tortuous, destructive miles. And by this test the trailer axles made by Rubery Owen have proved how good they are to transport operators here in Great Britain, on the Continent and the long grinding hauls of North America.

Rubery Owen are pioneers of light weight with strength. Their tubular beam axles have made other methods axles made by Rubery Owen.

they have achieved this without any loss in strength or quality. Maintenance costs, too, are low. Over the miles Rubery Owen axles have set new standards for low maintenance, maximum safety and bigger payloads. They incorporate the finest quality materials, precision workmanship and the most advanced design.

So when you are ordering new trailers make sure you get lightweight, rugged

Happy, because his trailers are carrying bigger loads, causing him less trouble, operating safely. Happy because he was wise enough to make sure his trailers were fitted with Rubery Owen tubular beam axles. Light, strong, dependable.

### TRAILER EQUIPMENT DEPT.

Rubery Owen & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 10, Darlaston, Staffs. July 29.

six Triumpl Burtony Garden Cit folding

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This car transporter has three decks and can carry ix Triumph TR3 sports cars. It was built by the Burtonwood Engineering Co., Ltd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts, upon a Leyland Comet forward-control chassis, and features the company's folding elevating equipment at the rear.

£1 3s. 3d. per week, and interest charges are correspondingly increased to 9s. 5d. Depreciation is calculated as before, but a loss of 14.5 per cent. is allowed on resale, resulting in a cost per week of 2 58. 2d. Total standing costs when the er is driven by the user are £4 10s.

With a rate of consumption of 30 m.p.g., fuel cost per mile is 1.84d. Lubricants are reckoned to add 0.12d., whilst

the allowance for accidental tyre damage is increased to 0.17d. Maintenance, based on the slightly higher charge applicable to this size of car, is estimated to cost 0.86d. per mile, giving a total running cost of 2.99d. per mile, or 1.15d. without fuel.

Total operating costs per mile, inclusive of fuel, are as follows: 100 miles per week, 13.79d.; 200 miles, 8.39d.; 300 miles, 6.59d., and 400 miles, 5.69d. Without the cost of fuel being included, the corresponding figures are 11.59d., 6.55d., 4.75d. and 3.85d. per mile.

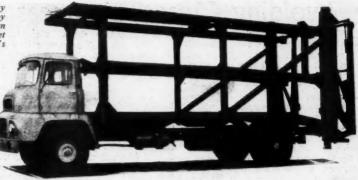
Standing costs per week of the 2½-litre car are: Licences, 5s., rent and rates, 7s. 8d., insurance, £1 6s. 10d., interest, 14s. 6d., and depreciation, £4 2s. Depreciation is calculated on an average initial price of £1,210 and a loss in value over the first year of 17 per cent.

#### **Total Running Costs**

Fuel consumption is reckoned at a rate of 24 m.p.g., giving a cost per mile of 2.30d. Lubricants add 0.16d. Tyre cost per mile is reckoned to be 0.21d. and maintenance 0.96d. tunning costs per mile are 3.63d., or 1.33d. without fuel.

Total operating costs per mile, inclusive of fuel, are 19,95d. at 100 miles per week, 11.79d. at 200 miles, 9.07d. at 300 miles and 7.71d. at 400 miles. Excluding fuel costs, the corresponding amounts would be 17.65d., 9.49d., 6.77d. and 5.41d.

The largest of the four cars is nominally reckoned to be in the 4,000 c.c. category, and, because it may be driven by a chauffeur, operating costs will be given with and without driver's wages. Standing costs per week will be reckoned as follows: Licences, 5s.; wages (where applicable), £10 8s. 9d.; rent and



rates, 8s. 2d.; insurance, £2; interest, £1 8s.; and depreciation. £9 2s. 10d. The purchase price is assumed to be £2,340, and. because of the limited resale market, the loss on disposal after a year is increased to 19.5 per cent. Total standing costs per week, when a chauffeur is employed, are £23 12s. 9d., or £13 4s. if there is no paid driver.

#### Fuel Costs 3.07d, a Mile

Average fuel consumption is estimated at 18 m.p.g., with a resulting fuel cost per mile of 3.07d. Lubricants are reckoned at 0.24d. per mile, whilst provision for accidental tyre damage becomes 0.30d. Similarly, maintenance over the first 12 months is calculated to cost 1.05d, per mile. This gives a total running cost per mile, inclusive of fuel, of 4.66d., or 1.59d. without

When a chauffeur is employed it would be reasonable to assume that average weekly mileages would be higher than otherwise. Total operating costs, inclusive of the cost of driver's wages, are, therefore, calculated in variations of 200 miles. At 200 miles a week the figure would be 33.03d., decreasing to 18.84d. at 400 miles, 14.12d. at 600 miles and 11.75d. at 800

When the vehicle is self-driven, total operating costs per mile at 100 miles per week would be 36.34d., 20.50d. at 200 miles, 15.22d. at 300 miles and 12.58d. at 400 miles. Without the addition of fuel costs, corresponding figures would be 33.27d., 17.43d., 12.15d. and 9.51d. per mile. It is emphasized that these costs have been estimated on the assumption that maximum availability is a prime objective.

#### Esso Predict Component Failure by Lubricant Analysis

ADDITIONAL facilities for the development of fuels, lubricating oils and other petroleum products have been introduced by the Esso Petroleum Co., Ltd., at their new technical sales department at Faggs Road, Feltham, Middx., which was officially opened last week. The department was located formerly at Vauxhall, London, and moved to Feltham early this year.

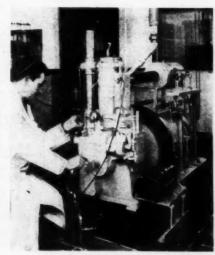
One of the most impressive diagnostic instruments in the laboratories at Feltham is a direct-reading spectrograph. This instrument detects and determines with speed and accuracy metallic elements in sludges, oils and combustion deposits. It has been employed extensively to analyse used lubricant from British Railways' new oil-engined loco-

Metallic particles resulting from wear onn be detected, and by comparison with previous analyses, it is possible to deduce which components are particularly subject to wear, and thus predict possible failures.

For development work petroleum fuels, the department use variable-compression singlecylindered test engines, whilst derv development and lubrication-oil trials are carried out on singlecylindered Caterpillar and Petter engines. At present 11 engines are installed in the test cells, but 16 will be the full complement.

The laboratories are primarily concerned with the development of new or special products to meet specific needs. To this end they conduct continuous laboratory and field trials, in co-operation both with the main Esso research centre at Abingdon, and the refineries.

This single-cylindered Caterpillar engine is being used to determine the cetane number of a diesel fuel by the ignition-delay method. This type of engine is used also for lubricating oil trials.





Ltd., P.O. n, Staffs.

July 29

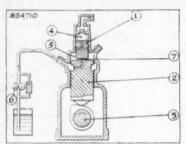
### Avoiding Close Tolerances

PATENT No. 834,710 shows an injection pump in which close tolerances are not required between the plunger and barrel. It is designed to reduce manufacturing cost. (The S.U. Carburetter Co., Ltd., Wood Lane, Erdington, Birmingham, 24.)

The drawing shows sufficient of the proposed pump to illustrate the sealing principle. Two separate plungers are used, a small one (1) and a larger one (2) which receives the thrust of the cam (3).

On the downstroke of the plungers a vacuum is created in the pumping space (4) and in an annular space (5). As soon as the plungers reach the region supplied by the feed-pump (6) both spaces fill with fuel.

On the upstroke, the lower plunger pushes the upper one by mechanical contact at first. As soon as the spill ports are closed, the upper plunger is hydraulically propelled and tends to move ahead of the lower one because

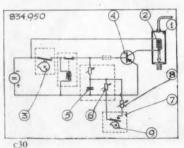


the difference in their diameters. This action opens a spill clearance (7) so that the actual effect is to maintain a constant pressure in the lower space which is slightly greater than the injection pressure on the top plunger.

Fuel leakage cannot occur for the simple reason that the pressure under the plunger is higher than that above it. Leakage from the lower fuel belt does not matter because it is unmetered. The natent describes also a quantity control device and a rotary distributor. These are separate units, but they employ the same principle to prevent leakage.

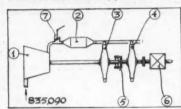
#### **ELECTRIC INJECTION**

FUEL injector that is opened and A shut electrically is shown in patent No. 834,950. The injector is simply an on-off valve fed with fuel under pressure. (Robert Bosch G.m.b.H., 4 Breitscheidstrasse, Stuttgart-W, Germany.)



drawing employed and a diagrammatic view of the injector (1). The spring-closed needle-valve opens when a solenoid (2) is energized. An engine-driven cam (3) controls the commencement of injection. This occurs when the cam closes the contacts and triggers off, via a relay, the transistor (4) which passes the solenoid current

Duration of injection is determined by electrical means. When the contacts are closed, they also charge a capacitor (5) which maintains the control current after the contacts have re-opened. Thus, the timing is dependent on the charge in the capacitor, and this can be adjusted by a variable leak resistor (6).



The unit shown at 7 is optional and consists of a parallel resistor (8) which is switched in and out by another enginedriven cam (9). This acts as a governor. reducing the fuel supply as the engine speed rises.

#### CENTRIFUGAL AIR CLEANER

CENTRIFUGAL intake air cleaner A is shown in patent No. 834,715. The unit described is robust and requires little servicing. (Vokes, Ltd., Henley Road, Guildford, Surrey.)

The drawing shows a section of the cleaner, which has a diameter of 1 ft. 2 in. and is 2 ft. long. Air enters through a number of wire-mesh covered apertures (1) and passes to the left to reach the annular spaces (2) between large and small concentric tubes. Each space contains a helically vaned cyclone (3) which spins the air and causes the dust to be thrown outwards.

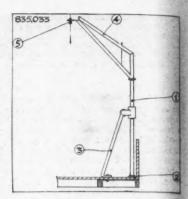
The dust collects in the hopper (4) while the clean air passes back through the inner tubes to reach a space (5). This is joined to the pipe (6) which leads to the induction manifold. The dust hopper is quickly detachable.

#### SELF-LOADING JIB

PATENT No. 835,033 refers to vehicles fitted with bolsters above the cab to carry long loads such as poles and bars of metal. The subject of the patent is

a jib for unloading such goods when no crane is available. (C. G. Chantrill and Partners, Ltd., National House, Moorgate, London, E.C.2, Gardiner, Sons and Co., Ltd., Nelson Street, Bristol, and V. Bullock.)

The drawing shows one side of the tubular bolster (1) which is located in a pair of cups (2) on the floor of the body. The bar is rein-



forced by braces (3) and transverse bracing.

The invention consists of a jib (4), the stem of which swivels inside the bore of the tube. A block and tackle can be attached to the hook (5) or a single pulley can be used in conjunction with a winch on the vehicle. When not in use, the jib is lifted out of the tube and a rubber plug is inserted.

#### GAS TURBINE BRAKING

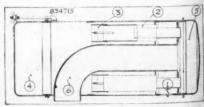
THE aim of patent No. 835,090 is to enable a road vehicle powered by a gas turbine to obtain braking effect from the power unit. (Daimler-Benz A.G., Stuttgart-Unterturkheim, Germany.)

The drawing shows the general layout of a gas turbine suitable for such an application. A compressor (1) feeds air to the multiple combustion chambers (2). The combustion products drive a turbine (3) which is connected to the compressor, and then pass to the main power turbine (4) whence they exhaust to atmosphere, A one-way clutch (5) permits the compressor to overrun the power turbine. and a gearbox (6) leads to the transmission system.

When braking is required, the pedal movement cuts off the fuel supply and then opens a port to atmosphere (7). When this is done, the speed of the compressor and its turbine drops rapidly until the one-way clutch comes into action, after which the road wheels drive both turbines and the compressor to absorb energy.

#### PLASTICS BEARING CAGES

PATENT No. 833,847 comes from A.B. Svenska Kullafabriken, Gothenburg, Sweden, and describes a ball-bearing cage that can be moulded in plastics material. To prevent distortion by centrifugal force, a channel-section steel reinforcement is incorporated.



July 29, 1960

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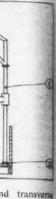
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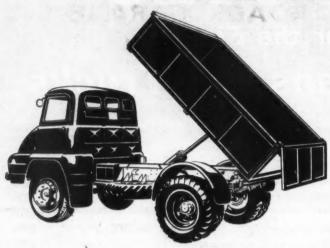
#### CAGES

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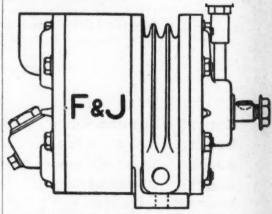
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1958 Tractor unit with 244t. 5-7-ton platform

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1957 AUSTIN diesel, 7-ton tipper, one owner.

1/7e equipment, in super condition, £975. Church R.

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55-61 LONDON STREET,

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EW BEDFORD 6-1-ton short normal-control tipper, 1 3-place wheels, 5-speed gearbox, 825 x 20 12-ply front, £1,455 sx and-2-yr tol tractor unit 300 diesel, 2-speed xlc, fitted Scammell coupling, £1315 5x 641.

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867-301

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1957 BEDFORD CAV 10-12-cwt., blue, £265. H. TAYLOR AND CO. Elmbridge 0081.

LAWSON PIGOTT MOTORS, LTD., BEDFORD MAIN DEALERS. LAWSON PIGOTT MOTORS, LTD.,

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BRAND-NEW 1,000-CU.-FT. LUTON VANS.

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SPECIAL quotations for larger bodies and other upor of bodywork, both light aluminium alloy and com-posite construction, sent on request.

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BEDFORD 5-ton normal-control 179-in.-wheelbase chassis and cab, diesel.
BEDFORD 35-cwt. chassis-scuttle, diesel.

BEDFORD 10-, 12- and 15-cwt. short- and long-wheel-base vans. BEDFORD 12-scater Utilabrake.

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1953 BEDFORD 5-ton P6 diesel long-wheelbase plate DART-EXCHANGES? Certainly! Hire-purchase terms

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£550. An exceptional 1956 BEDFORD 7-ton long-engine and 7-near-new tyres, very clean cab, etc. HERWIN CANNY AND CO., LTD., Woolwick 8161, After 7 p.m. phone Longfield 2524.

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Aykesbury, 2321-2.

SPARSHATTS, Millbrook, Southampton 72596.

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EARLY delivery, price £1,445, anpainted.

BEDFORD 12-ton tractor unit, diesel.

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OCTOBER, 1957, 6-ton BEDFORD forward-control
300-cu.-in. diesel 18-ft. drop-side truck, carefully
maintained, low mileage, and owner driven, £825; choice

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Used Goods Vehicles (contd.)

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NEW COMMERC BEDFORD 7-to BEDFORD 7-to tipper, 9.00 x

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MAIN RETAIL DEALERS FOR AUSTIN-COMMER VEHICLES AND SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THORNYCROFT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES FOR

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1955 AUSTIN 3-ton 3.4 diesel. 1,150-cu.-ft. Luton comprehensive mechanical overhaul completed.
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4 N. 4. good selection, low mileage, M.o.S. rebuilds, from £150 each; 6 x 4, very low mileage, M.o.S. rebuilds, chassis and cabs, from £175 each.

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COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF NEW AND USED YANS AND PERSONNEL CARRIERS ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

1957 Diesel 7-ton long-wheelbase drop-side truck, Leyland engine. 1954 SeDFORD 10-, 12- and 15-cwt. vans, Martin Walter and Kenex conversions, choice 1959 htted 300-cu.-in. Bedford diesel.

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THE MAIN BEDFORD DEALERS. always have a comprehensive stock of the firs

MAKE sure you inspect these before you make you purchase. A sample of our stock is as follows 1954 BEDFORD 25-cwt. Spurling van, blue. £225 954 BEDFORD 35-cwt. truck, £245. 953 BEDFORD 30-35-cwt. pick-up, £175.

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BEDFORD 7-ton lo-yd. tipper, diesel R6, £595.

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BEDFORD 7-ton alloy platform, Comet engine, £450.

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BEDFORD 7-ton alloy platform, Comet engine, £350.

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BEDFORD P6 diesel 5-ton long-wheelbase hydraulic tipper, 8390 or terms arranged.

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NEW COMMERCIALS FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY. DEDFORD 7-ton N.C. 6-cu.-yd diesel tipper, 9.00 20 12-ply tyres rear and spare, 2-speed axic, £1,398 DEDFORD 7-ton N.C. 6-cu.-yd. drop-side steel-bodie, tipper, 9.00 x 20 12-ply tyres rear and spare, 2-spec-ule £1.44c BEFORKE 9.00 x 20 12-ply tyres rear and spars, and files 1,545.

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Bid ft, 6 in, long by 7 ft, 6 in, wide by 8 ft, 6 in, link tallboard and half doors, £1,325,
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NEW VEHICLES 10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE OVER THREE YEARS.

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1957 Forward-control 6-ton, 300 diesel engine, long1956, Coctober, 2-ton Luton van, roller shutter door, 
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1958 BEFFORD 6-ton long-wheelbase, Bedford diesel,
COOMBS COMMERCIAL (GUILDFORD), LTD.,
Portsmouth Rd., Guildford, Surrey. Phone. Guildford,
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1957 BEDFORD 7-ton platorm truck (petrol), one C' operator in immac, condition, £350, Leas Garage, Wrangle, Boston, Lincs. Old Leake 451.

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CATERHAM MOTOR CO., LTD. 1957 BEDFORD long-wheelbase drop-side truck, petrol, tyres good, in excellent condition, a

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1956 BEDFORD, petrol, 5-ton long-wheelbase truck.
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BEDFORDS wanted! Bedfords wanted! We want Bedfords! Trucks, tippers, vans, Lutons, etc. G.T.C. (Commercials), Ltd., 2 Addington Rd., Bow Rd., E.3. Advance 5242-3.

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WANTED, B.M.C. diesel Austin-Morris 1-ton 30-cwt. vans and pick-ups. Norths, Pontefract Rd., Stourton, Leeds. 10. Phone 76809. 867-291

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20 tyres, air brakes, etc., artics, tippers, vans,

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1955 TS3 18-ft. flat, good cab and body, engine in poor condition, £275. Langley Mill 3182.

SHELDON MOTOR SERVICES, 2119 Coventry Rd. Sheldon, Birmington, 26. Phone, Sheldon 4385-7-8 1958 3 long-wheelbase 18-ft. drop-sides, 900 x 20 tyres, in very good condition, £725. Choice of three. 4 Carruthers St., Liverpool. 3. Central 2947.

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COMBS COMMERCIAL (GUILDFORD), LTD.,
Portsmouth Rd., Guildford, Surrey. Phone, Guildford
52907.

1960 COMMER TS3 6-wheeler, 24-ft. platform, steel body, 1959 Commer short-wheelbase tipper, body tipper, Hamblins Garages, Rectory Rd., Rushden 3211.

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NOVEMBER, 1956, COMMER TS3 power tipper, long wheelbase, alloy body, £600. Taxed year. Walter (Ecclesifeld), Ltd., Ecclesifeld, near Sheffield Phone, Ecclesifeld 3667-28

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1950 Scarmnell coupling, engine overhauled, not repainted, very clean vehicle, £380. Phone, Backer, 1966, 30-ext. COMMER diesel van. Propainted, very clean vehicle, £380. Phone, Backer, 1966, 287752.

NEW TS3 long-wheelbase platform truck, air brakes, power steering, immediate delivery. Mansfield Autos. Ltd., High Rd., Broxbourne, Herts. Hoddesdon 4557. 367-366

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1956 COMMER TS3 chassis-cab, fitted large-capacity aluminium boxvan.

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DENNIS Pax. 26-seater, perfect condition, repainted blue and cream, certificate of fitness May, 1962, £225, Apply: Hulls Motor Service, Gt. Barford, Bedford. Phone. Gt. Barford 235

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COR new and used commercial vehicles.

1955 DENNIS 8-ton Centaur diesel, one owner. ALL inquiries welcomed. DART-EXCHANGES. H.P. terms.

VER WORKS, Biggleswade, Beds. Phone, Biggleswade 2265(6).

1946 Max mechan-wheetbase tipper, choice of two
1953 P ils-ft. cattle container, £275.

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1950 DENNIS Pax platform body, II (t., very clean, choice of six. 1951 DENNIS Pax boavan, very clean, choice of H. F. A. DOLMAN, LTD., 215 North Rd., Southendom on-Sea. Phone 43262.

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1955, July, DODGE heavy tractor unit, S.A.E. fifth-wheel coupling, fitted works reconditioned for engine, tyres 9,00 x 20, exceptional condition throughout, bargain, 2375. Viewed at Frating Works, Frating, mear Colchester, Essex.

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DODGE 5-ton long-wheelbase drop-side truck, excellent condition, 200.

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1956 DODGE 106-AP6 6-ton long-wheelbase plat-Carters Green. West Bromwich 0778. 66-1. Kendrick 867-200

ONE new DODGE Model 3143AZ 12-ton tractor u with fitted York fifth-wheel coupling, immedi CENTRAL GARAGE (UPPINGHAM), LTD. Phone. 867-522

1957 DODGE 106 P6, 9.00 x 20 tyres, 5-spece gearbox, in excellent order, £495. Chandlen Motors, Ltd., 71 Greenwich South St., London, S.E.10, 76 er 2033-4.

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1959 Trader/B.T.C. 25-ft. articulated FORD, owner driver, good condition, cheap for quick sale.

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TWO THAMES 4-ton 4D Luton vans. 1955-56, 1,30 cu-ft. capacity, forming into floor well, fresh painted, and in very good aff-round condition, each W. J. REYNOLDS (MOTORS), LTD., Main FORD Dealers, Ford House, New Rd., Dagenham, Domin-

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TRADER 4D diesel 4-ton chassis, fitted with 1.250-ce. u.vf. low-loading Luton body, new and unregistered, works, for early delivery, £1,170.
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1956 FORD THAMES 4D 4-ton truck, £425.

HIRE-PURCHASE deposits now from 10%

ALL THAMES models in stock for early delivery, any body built to your requirements.

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867-271

1956 4D tractor and 24-ft. Carrimore trailer, £525.
1959 4D long-wheelbase, 11,000 miles only, fitted with winch and special body for caravan to the control of the caravan 4D long-wheelbase platform, £525.

HUDSON, Bawtry 362.

1955 FORD 2-ton 4D diesel truck, replacement engine in good condition, repainted, £250 o.n.o. L. Gregory, Glynn Gates, Fernhall Lane, Upshire, WS23760, 867-8891

1959 FORD 7-cwt. van, with extras, £330. Thames 5-ton long-wheelbase drop-side truck, Open State Commercial (GUILDFORD), LTD., Commercial Commercial (GUILDFORD), LTD., Opensmouth Rd., Guildford, Surrey. Phone, Guildford, Santy

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1954 FORD van. tyres, bodywork, mechanically very good, one owner, taxed for year. Immediate Hire-purchase terms arranged. 867-339

FORD Trader 7-ton 1959 long-wheelbase drop-side low mileage, 900 by 20 tyres, a very clean m E825, Grantham Commercials, 97 Barrowby Grantham. Phone 133.

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1959 THAMES Trader 6D tractor unit, 2-speed axle
S.A.E. coupling, clean and in very good order RUSH GREEN MOTORS, Langley, Hitchin, Herts

UTON vans. Several FORD 4D and P6 1.350 to 1,750 cu. ft., 1955-1957. WE have a large selection, details of which will be sent on request. Hire-purchase 10% deposit, balance over three years.

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1957 Long-wheelbase 5-ton, 6-cylinder diesel, Thames
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1959 base, platforn track, £825, 6D, 160-in, wheel0 AKTHORPE MOTOR. O. North Circular Rd.
Palmers Green 1023.

1959, November, Trader 7-ton 6D drop-side truck, Brammersmith Rd. W.6. Riv 6677.

1958 Thames Trader 6D 5-ton short-wheelbase tipper, 887-403 trucks ester hody, Anthony Hoist gear, 8.25 x 20 tyres. E825 or terms arranged. Anthony Hoist gear, 8.25 x 20 tyres. HENRY EATON, LTD., 107 Palmerston St., Ancoats, Manchester, Phone, Ardwick 3146.

1957 FORDSON diesel. 4D. medium-wheelbas L. Vehicle Supply Co., 27-41 Gravel Lane, Salford, 3 Phone, Manchester, Blackfriars 1511.

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2-speed axle, air brakes, unladen weight 4 tons 3 cm.
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1947 MAUDSLAY, A.F.C. 7.7 engine, 18-ft. platform, good condition. Phone, Gorsley 322

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1957 MINOR 1000 1-ton van, blue-cream, passenge 1952 Cowley pick-up, blue, £185. SUFORD CAR SALES, LTD., 98-116 Commercial Rd. Southampton. Phone 2725.2.

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18-1950, flat lorries, tandem Hydrovac, ion, choice several LTD., Longridge, 41. 867-42

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1958 BEDFORD 7-ton tipper, G.M.C. engine, 14-ft.
1957 BEDFORD 7-ton tipper, petrol, 12-ft. steel drop-side body.
1958 BEDFORD 5-ton tipper, 13-ft. 6-in. timber body.
1958 BEDFORD 5-ton tipper, 13-ft. 6-in. timber body.
1959 BEDFORD 7-ton tipper, petrol, U-shaped steel body.
1954 REDFORD 7-ton tipper, petrol, U-shaped steel body.
1955 AUSTIN 5-ton tipper, 12-ft. timber body.
1957 SEDDON 4-ton tipper, Pft. timber body.
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1948 SEDDON 6-ton tipper, P6, 11-ft, 6-in, limber body.
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1950 SEDDON 6-ton P6, 16-ft. 9-in. timber flat

953 SEDDON 7-ton P6, 750 cu. ft. 1955 BEDFORD 7-ton R6, 16-ft. 9-in. by 7-ft. 6-in. box body.

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DENNIS 1947 Max, double-drop-sides, quite clean condition throughout, still has a lot of tife left, £225, B-3-ft. wheelbase extension and new 20-ft. platform body. Perkins R6 Mark II engine recently fitted, 9.00 x 20 tyres all round. This vehicle is in exceptionally good condition throughout. £800. BEDFORD 1956 long-wheelbase, R6 engine, 7-ton, 9.00 x 20 tyres, very well cared for by one owner-driver.

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trailer, good condition throughout, £42.ft.
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1959 COMMER TS3 w.th 10-ton Unipower 6-wheel extension, double-ram 4L tipper, air brakes

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956 COMMER TS3, 18-ft. 6-in. flat, 9.00 x 20 tyres.
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LEYLAND Octopus, 24-f'. 6-in. Imber body, excellent condition.

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FODEN 8-wheeler, 2-stroke engine, 24-ft. 6-in. timber body, sound condition.

FODEN 8-wheeler, 2-stroke engine, 24-ft. 6-in. timber body, sound condition.

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1956

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1956 rear axle, fitted with Luton van body. 21 ft.

1956 both petrol and oil, good condition.

1956 both petrol and oil, good condition.

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1959 41-scater, Burlingham full-luxury 8-ft, coach-comet engine, many extras fitted, small mileage, finished sreen, choice of three, certificate of fitness 1966. 1959 44-scater, Burlingham full-luxury 8-ft, coach-gettas, small mileage, finished green, choice of aix, certifi-cate of fitness. State Burlingham full-luxury coachwork, 1957 8 ft wide, heaters and other extras fitted, red upholstery, finished cream and red, certificate of fitness 1964.

1964. 1956 36-seater Burlingham full-luxury coachwork upholstery in red-grey moquette, heaters and other extras, finished blue and cream, certificate of

38-seater, Duple Super Vega coachwork, recommoquette, finished two shades of blue, certifiness 1964, 1954 acte of fitness 1964.

1954 38-seater Duple Super Vega fitted R6 diesel engine, finished blue, certificate of fitness 1964.

1955 438-seater Duple Super Vega fitted R6 diesel engine, finished blue, certificate of fitness 1964.

1955 37-seater. Duple Vega coachwork, upholstered in rere moquette, finished out, certificate of fitness 1964.

1952 37-seater. Duple Vega coachwork, upholstered in rerem moquette, finished green and cream, certificate of fitness 1962.

1953 38-seater, Gurney-Nutting coachwork, autumn tint moquette, lift-up roof vents, repainted certificate of fitness 1962.

1952 33-seater, Duple Vega coachwork, autumn tint moquette, lift-up roof vents, repainted certificate of fitness 1962.

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1952 A.E.C. 9.6 37-seater full-front. finished in cream good tyres. and red. radio and speech amplification, heaters, good tyres. FODEN rearrend TS. fitted with special possible properties of the properties of t

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1959 BEDFORD, petrol, Duple 41-scater, glass rod
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1957 Marcon-arey exterior, heaters, £2,750.
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1952 BEDFORD Plaxton, 33 scatter, cream-bise servicios 19 bue interior, certificate of fitnes April, 1962.
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195 each BEDFORD Duple 33-seater, choice of two, 1951 certificate of fitness 1961, £1.050.

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5650.

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ARE YOU CONT WE HAVE A MC

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1958 BEDFORD PI Bedford 300 cu. in. 1965, exterior two attractive dark gre 1957 BEDFORD D

1956 BEDFORD PI 1955 BEDFORD Di green, very at 1954 BEDFORD Bi finesa March, 1963 Rust patterner

Rust patterned 1952 BEDFORD D 1965 January, 1961 dark green moquel 1951 A.E.C. Mark
seater full-luxury
in fawn patterned
1949 COMMER As
certificate of fitnes

1951 TILLING-STI certificate of fitnes Large selection of for workers' to

WHY NOT MAK REFUND CUSTO EVER

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PERCY LOND 1960 COMM seater demonstrator, 7,00 1951 A.E.C. body, h interior, certificate 1951 LEYLA Gurney

1949 GUY, Certifical 1948 DENNI

1948 leyLA 38

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BEDFORD, July Vega, £3,500.

LEYLAND W. engine, 37-sea three, £2,750.

COMMER TS3 Planton, £2,30 LEYLAND ROS REDFORD, 195

MAUDSLAY, £1,500. EYLAND PSI

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ater, certificate of eater body, maron r mobile shops, site O ARE STEAM

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Burlingham coach er Duple coaches, £2,100, el underfloor-engine ers, driver-operated

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1958 BEDFORD Plaxton 41-seater full luxury coach with Bedford 300 cu. in. diesel engine, certificate of fitness July, 1965, exterior two shades of green, seating trimmed in attractive dark green patterned moquette, condition as new all round.

1957 BEDFORD Duple 41-seater full luxury coach, petro exterior cream and green, very reasonably priced. exterior cream and green, very reasonably priced.

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96 BEDFORD Plaxton 41-scater full luxury coach, this suick was formerly used on high-class Continental tourins, and is superior condition.

Touring, and is in superb condition.

SS BEDFORD Duple 38-seater coach, exterior cream and green, very attractive machine at a low price.

BEDFORD Burlingham 36-seater coach, certificate of times March, 1963. exterior cream and black, seating in Rat patterned moquette, heater and demister.

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SS AEC March V. chassis with 1955 Burlingham 41-SS MAEC March IV. chassis with 1955 Burlingham 41-SS AEC March IV. chassis with 1955 Burlingham 41-

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1851 TILLING-STEVENS. Strachan 34-seater semi-coach, criticate of fitness January, 1962, very fresh machine offered at bargain price.

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large selection of diesel-engined 33-seater coaches suitable for workers' transport at very reasonable prices.

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PERCY D. SLEEMAN. LTD.. LONDON COMMER DEALERS. 1960 COMMER TS3, air brakes, overdrive, 41-seater Duple, glass roof quarters, heater, ex-

1960 COMMINED

The semonstrator Tubble, glass roof quarters, heater, exsemonstrator Tubble, miles discovered to the semonstrator Tubble miles

1951 body, heaters, red interior, also 39-seaters, blue
limetor, certificate of fitness 1961.

1951 LEVIAND Royal Tiger, air brakes, 41-seater
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BEDFORD, July, 1959, diesel, 41-scater Duple Super Vega, £3,500.

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Challer S3, diesel, 1955 COMMER TS3, diesel, 1955, Eaton axle, 41-seater Platon, £2,300.

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Used Passenger Vehicles (contd.)

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1960 New Thames Burlingham Seagull 60, 41-seater, free moquette, exterior grey and red, immediate delivery.

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with radio and heaters, Perspex quarters and many other
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1920 wide at the with radio and heaters, Perspex quantout, certificate extras, in good clean condition throughout, certificate choice of four.

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1954 BEDFORD Ventura, 38-seater full luxury
1954 BEDFORD Ventura, 38-seater full luxury
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1954 BEDFORD Super Vega 36-seater, full luxury
1955 BEDFORD Super Vega 36-seater, full luxury
1956 BEDFORD Super Vega 36-seater, full luxury
1957 BEDFORD Super Vega 36-seater, full luxury
1958 BEDFORD Super Vega 36-seat

in soon creat states of the state of two, 36-seater 1953 full luxury Seaguil, choice of two, 36-seater roof lights, certified 1963.

1953 BEDFORD Super Vega, 35-seater full luxury states of the stat

1963.
1952 BEDFORD Vega, 35-scater full luxury Gurne;
Nutting body, fitted with lift-up roof lights
heater, good clean condition throughout, certificate of heater, good clean condition throughout, certained fitness 1962, choice of two.

1952 LEYLAND, rebuilt 38-seater full-front Plaxton body. fitted with heater, clean condition

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1961.

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957 41-seater BEDFORD petrol Duple. 957 COMMER TS3.

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951 COMMER 33-scater Plaxton; choice of two VARIOUS petrol and diesel coaches available for works or contract, some with good certificates of fitness, heap to clear.

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demonstration coach.

1957 BEDFORD petrol 41-seater Super Vega.

where the seater super vega.

Warch, certificate of fitness March.

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196. A MAIDSLAY (A.E.C. oil engine) 33-seater Bellhouse Hartwell body, new certificate. 195 1-52 BEDFORD, 35-seater Gurney Nutting body, certificate of fitness 1961; choice of two. DENNIS JA'-seater Gurney-Nutting, red moquette, exterior maroon-cream. 27-seater QUY Arab. Meadows 10.3 engine, 37-seater Courtificate of fitness to March. 1961. (certificate of fitness to March. 1961. (certificate of fitness to March. 1961. (december 2018) 1947 blue-cream, certificate of fitness to July, 1962.

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1957 COMMER (Rootes diesel), 5-speed box, Plaxton 41-seater, radio and heaters, certified 1964.

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NE new Thames Plaxton 41-seater, radio, heater, discarear domes, for immediate delivery.

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JEW BEDFORD SBI diesel 41-seater Burlingham Seaguil 60, latest model ex-stock,

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33-seater Plaxton Highway omnibus, 15% below lfst.

1957 sort, heater, radio, immaculate condition,

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COMMER TS3 2-stroke diesel 39-seater Plaxton

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1955 COMMER TS3 2-stroke diesel 39-seater Plaxton

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1957 San BEDFORD SB petrol 36-32-seater Burling
1958 BEDFORD D SB petrol 36-32-seater Burling
1959 Certified 1963, very clean, heater, tracham, cer
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1951 BEDFORD OB petrol 30-seater Beadle all
1952 died 1952 died 1952 died 1952 died 1953 died 19 HIRE-PURCHASE FACILITIES, EXCHANGES.

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1953 BEDFORD petrol 36-seater Harrington, autum choice of two, £1,215.

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FOUR 15-CWT. 2-WHEELED TRAILERS.

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ONE PUMP

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ONE LEYLAND FIRE APPLIANCE, LESS ENGINE

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Miscellaneous Advertisements (contd.)

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White Oak, Swanley, Kent. Clerk to the Council. 22nd July, 1960, 867-231

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Further particulars and Form of Tender from The General Manager and Engineer, Corporation Transport Department, 372 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone.

Tenders to be received by the Town Clerk, 13 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, not later than September 10, 1990, 867-229





July 29, 1960-THE COMMERCIAL MOTOR 67

## Miscellaneous Advertisements (contd.)

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## PROGRESS OF OTHER INTERESTS

## MR. H. C. DRAYTON'S REVIEW

THE SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of The British Electric Traction Company, ited, was held on 21st July, 1960, in London. Mr. H. C. DRAYTON, chairman of the Company, in the rise of his address said:—

#### ACCOUNTS

The Group revenue is £5.836,000, an increase of £1.221,000. Taxation has to be deducted and the proportion of the net profit attributable to your Company is £3,176,000. After paying the Preference Dividend and the Preferred Stock Dividend and 40% on the Deferred as against 35% last year, there remains a balance retained in the Group of £1.245,000.

#### UNITED KINGDOM BUS COMPANIES

UNITED KINGDOM BUS COMPANIES

Our bus companies in this country had a good year in 1959. The summer, as you know, was extremely \_ood, and our companies made the most of it. Wages and other costs remained steady, so that we experienced a period of stability in operating costs which has not been known for a long time. The number of passengers carried by our associated companies in 1959 was nearly equal to the number carried in 1958, and this was quite a remarkable achievement bearing in mind the number of new private cars which come on to the road every day.

The period of wage stability in our bus industry came to an end early in May of this year. A settlement was made with the Unions, and the cost will exceed that of any settlement which our bus industry has previously made. We estimate that the increases resulting from this settlement will cost our companies more than £3 million in a full year, taking into account consequential increases. It is obvious that such an increase companies for substantial increases in fares, and the companies have therefore reluctantly been obliged to make immediate application to the Traffic Commissioners for substantial increases in fares.

Fuel oil plays a big part in the cost of running our buses. Today that fuel oil has to bear a tax of 2s. 6d. a gallon. The curious thing about this in that the same fuel oil that is used in our buses may be used for a multitude of other purposes completely tax free, but as soon as we use it, it has to bear what can be described as a luxury tax of 200% as if it were some precious jewel—though I would point out if it were a precious jewel, it would only be subject to purchase tax of 25%.

Whilst having to pay tax is bad enough, the basic cost of fuel oil, to my mind, is too high today. There is over-production of oil throughout the world and one wonders whether this high price can continue indefinitely as new sources of oil are being found and waiting to be marketed. In my view it is our duty to pursue all sources of our basic raw material, that

unlimited speed, in quite ludicrous.

During the year we parted with one of the oldest of our companies, that was we had to close down the Mumbles Railway. I was present at the closing ceremony on the 5th January, and drove the last train on this railway, which had so faithfully served the public for 155 years. A modern bus service has been substituted.

During the year, our associated company the Midland Red, introduced the first non-stop motorway express service. This proved a great success, and has been followed by further services operated on the motorways by the Midland Red and other associated companies.

Midland Red and other associated companies.

The need for new modern roads is urgent in the interests of public and private transport alike. However, congestion in towns and approaches to towns is a much more difficult problem. One school of thought advocates that we should drive wide motorways into the hearts of our cities to enable every man to bring his own car into the city centre and leave it. Enough parking space should be provided there for the cars to be left while the owner goes about his business. I have not got any cut and dried solution to this problem, but it would be instructive to know what is the average time each car is used per day. This would bring home to car owners the real cost of their travelling, taking into account depreciation on the car and insurance, and might induce them to consider taking advantage of the many "Drive-Yourself" organisations only when they needed to use a car, or even use a bus! This might do something towards alleviating what at present looks an insoluble problem.

## OVERSEAS INTERESTS

OVERSEAS INTERESTS

During the year 1959 Canadian business did not pick up, and for our Canadian company it proved a disappointing year. The results were in fact, only slightly better than the previous year, when we just broke even. The company purchased three more freight companies, and acquired new warehouses and modernised or replaced others, so that as and when business recovers, we should be in a good position to take advantage of such a situation.

In Jamaica the absence of any significant increase in costs during 1959, and fewer interruptions of labour resulted in a marked improvement in the results of Jamaica Omnibus Services, for the year following the contraction in the profits in 1958.

The continuing growth of the activities of the convents.

profits in 1958.

The continuing growth of the activities of the company has made it possible for its services to be operated at the same level of fares as applied in 1953, in spite of the considerable increases in costs—particularly in wages—which have occurred in the meantime.

Our interests in East Africa and in Rhodesia, which are operated by the United Transport Company of Chepstow, have continued to prosper. The results of the African Transport Company took an upward trend in 1959, although the dividend has not been increased as the Directors thought it better to strengthen the financial position of the company.

On the company took and the financial position of the company.

Rhodesia United Transport showed a satisfactory improvement in their profits which is reflected in an increase in the dividend. The company's contract providing road transport for the Kariba Dam has now been nearly completed, and new developments are being actively pursued.

## OTHER INTERESTS

Our interests in Associated-Rediffusion remain the same as for the previous year. The company continues to make steady progress and during the year the company extended its activities by acquiring a controlling interest in Wembley Stadium Limited. This is diversifying our interests, and giving the company a broader base, although still in the entertainment world.

In Rediffusion, where we have a large interest there was increased revenue, and the dividend was increased also.

In Sour Company, a fine summer does not suit all our undertakings. As I have to you, it did beneft our bus companies, but it was not so helpful when we turn to the laundry business. Nevertheless, our laundry and dry-cleaning companies had a satisfactory year. Our "Towelmaster" service continues to increase, and to give you some idea of the size—to service the "Towelmaster" cabinets alone, some 15 million yards of towelling are required, the cleaning of which in itself constitutes a major laundering feat.

Our faith in Eddison Plant has now more than justified itself. Its turnover increased in 1995 by 25%, and also showed a substantial increase in its profits. This company claims now to possess the largest fleet in the United Kingdom of contractors' plant for hire, and properly justifies the company's slogan of "Eddison Everywhere".

During the year we disposed of the I livernead House Head on what we considered to be attractive to the size of the size

During the year we disposed of the Livermead House Hotel on what we considered to be attractive terms.

## THE FUTURE

When we come to the present year, it would appear that our results should be satisfactory. Our general investments should produce more, and as far as indications show our revenue should be larger than the year under review. I do not think you will expect me to say more than this, but to conclude, may I say that when we meet you next year, I do not think you will be disappointed with the results.

The report and accounts were adopted.

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